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Mr. Arafat and Mr. Clinton smiling after the Gaza airport ribbon-cutting.

Debt Sale Puts Thailand **Ahead of Recovery Pack**

Quick Action Sets Standard for Asia Reforms

By Thomas Crampton

BANGKOK - By the close of bidding Tuesday afternoon, Thailand will mark a watershed in the restructuring of Asia's crisis-hit economies.

On the auction block will be business loans worth nearly half of the 869 billion baht (\$24.03 billion) in assets seized by the government last year when it ship down much of the country's financia sector and closed 56 finance companies. The loans will be sold at a discount to their full value - up to 60 percent,

experts say — to companies hoping to recover enough money from the borrowers to make a profit. But the prices of Tuesday's bids are

less important, several economists said, than the demonstration that Thailand is restructuring quickly under its \$17 billion aid program from the International Monetary Fund

Thailand is setting a benchmark for clearing out bad loans and this auction will be watched throughout Asia," said Jim Walker, chief economist of Credit Lynnais. "After spacking the crisis, Thailand is taking the lead in cleaning up."

The rapid pace of Thailand's asset self-off, which will largely be complete

By William Drozdiak

BERLIN — Germany's tortuous

quest to build a Holocaust memorial in

the heart of its new capital took a fresh-

Monday when Chancellor Ger-hard Schroeder's government unveiled a new design that it claims will be more

suitable to educate future generations

The "interactive" project which borrows heavily from the didactic expe-

nence of Washington's Holocaust mu-

about the horrors of genocide.

ashington Post Service

if everything is sold Tuesday, places the country's realignment ahead of Indonesia and South Korea, Asia's other two recipients of multibillion-dollar IMF bailouts, according to Chi Lo, senior international economist at Hongkong &

Shanghai Banking Corp.

For one thing, Thailand is allowing foreign companies to bid. Among those

record low, survey shows. Page 15

expected to participate are General Electric Capital Corp. and Goldman

"Keeping foreigners out of the bank-ing sector was really a sacred cow in the Asian model, but this anction is breaking that system down," Mr. Lo said. "Korea, Indonesia and Malaysia really need this sort of auction soon too, but the first two have not even set a date and Malaysia's current policies would not allow it to take place.

Full economic restructuring, however, is far from complete and faces mounting resistance from critics who say that Thailand, the only country in Southeast Asia

See THAILAND, Page 4

Berlin Holocaust Memorial: Version 2

Schroeder Picks 'Interactive' Complex to Replace Kohl Sculpture Park

senin, would replace a monumental sculpture park favored by Mr. Schroeder's predecessor, Helmut Kohl.

That plan, which was set for ground-breaking next month, calls for a grave-

yard-like labyrinth of 2,700 concrete pil-

lars scattered over a five-acre (two-hectare) site near the Brandenburg Gate.

Eisenmann, the architect, and Richard

Serra, the sculptor, as oppressively gi-gantic and too abstract to convey the

powerful symbolism behind the murder of 6 million European Jews.

Critics assailed the model by Peter

Palestinians Soften Charter

Clinton, in Gaza, Witnesses Nullification of Anti-Israel Clauses

GAZA - On a historic mission of peace, President Bill Clinton told the Palestinian people Monday that they were free to "determine their own destiny on their own land." He then witnessed a Palestine National Council vote that voided parts of the Palestinian charter that deny Israel's right to exist.

On the first visit to Palestinian-controlled territory by an American president, Mr. Clinton applanded Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, for making what he termed bold moves toward peace with Israel. Mr. Clinton also said that it was time to think harder

about ways to cement the peace and ensure a more prosperous future for all Palestinians. "For too many Palestinians, lives are hard, jobs are scarce," Mr. Clinton said in an address to the Palestine

National Council. "I know the way is often difficult and frustrating, but you have come to this point through a commitment to peace and negotiations," he communed. "You reaffirmed that commitment today. I believe it is the only

way to fulfill the aspiration of your people."

He spoke after about 1,000 of the council's members and representatives of other Palestinian groups stood, at Mr. Arafat's invitation, and raised their hands to affirm elimination of anti-Israel passages from the

In Jerusalem, a spokesman for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel's demands for a fullfledged vote had been met, adding: "The prime minister expressed satisfaction with the results of the

The Palestinian gathering was a key requirement under the U.S.-brokered Wye River accord with Israel, which Mr. Clinton has sought to salvage during a three-day visit to the Middle

"Sometimes it takes more courage and more strength to make peace than it does to continue war," the U.S. pres-ident said earlier in an exchange of remarks with Mr. Arafat at a luncheon in

Gaza City.
"For the first time in the history of the Palestinian movement, the Palestinian people and their elected representatives now have a chance to determine their own destiny on their own land," he pointed out, pledging U.S. support. 'America wants you to succeed, and

we will help you create the society you deserve." Mr. Clinton said. Palestinians look to Mr. Clinton's isit to help in their quest for an in-

But the president and his senior aides have said that by visiting Gaza and encouraging the Palestinians to pursue

their own destiny, they are not advan-cing aspirations for Palestinian state-The question of sovereignty, in Washington's view, remains to be considered in further negotiations with Israel. But many Israelis worry that

simply by visiting Gaza—a day after he saw Mr. Netanyahu in Jerusalem — Mr. Clinton is implicitly endorsing the calls for statebood Mr. Arafat heaped praise on the pres-ident for helping pull together the Wye River land-for-security agreement two

months ago. He also thanked him for inaugurating the Gaza International Airport, which he called a "window on the world" for Palestinians. "You are also inaugur-

See GAZA, Page 4

Michael Naumann, Mr. Schroeder's

designated culture minister, scorned the

concept as a "wreath dumping ground" whose grandiose scale recalled the ele-

phantine projects of Hitler's favorite

In its place, Mr. Naumann says he now

envisions a memorial museum that

would feature a garden for contempla-

tion, a research library, an exhibition hall,

and a "genocide watch" institute that

would alert the world to potential mass

See MEMORIAL, Page 10

architect, Albert Speer.



Members of the Palestine National Council voting Monday to nullify key parts of their charter.

Clinton Vows to Accept Any 'Reasonable' Deal

Impeachment Isn't in U.S. Interest, He Insists

By Brian Knowlton rnational Herald Tribun

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton, continuing his Middle East visit even as the political storm clouds at home grow darker, said Monday that impeachment was not in the interest of the country, and he pledged to accept any "reasonable compromise" to resolve the matter.

His comments came as Clinton lov alists in Washington faced new setbacks in their delicate struggle to persuade a score of undecided Republican House members to oppose impeachment in a

historic vote Thursday. Mr. Clinton, speaking at the start of a meeting with the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, said: "I don't believe it's in the interest of the United States and the American people to go through this impeachment process and have a trial in

the Senate." The House of Representatives will vote on four articles of impeachment laid out against Mr. Clinton in the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal: two accuse him of perjury, one of obstruction of justice, and one of abuse of power. A simple majority vote would send the

matter to the Senate for trial. Mr. Clinton was responding Monday to reporters' questions, which were asked as he stood with Mr. Arafat and tried to focus attention on efforts to

salvage a peace accord. "I'm here serving America's in-terests," he said, "trying to make peace in the Middle East."

Mr. Clinton has been unable, however, to avoid the lengthening shadows at home, where he was to return Tuesday. On Sunday, three Republican House leaders took the extraordinary step of calling for his resignation even as he was abroad on his delicate peace-mak-

ing mission. That call - from the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Henry Hyde; the majority whip, Thomas Del.ay, and the majority leader, Richard Armey — "rewrites the book on partisanship," said

Mr. Clinton's spokesman, Joe Lockhart. Mr. Clinton said Sunday that he had no intention of resigning.

In Washington, Vice President Al Gore reaffirmed that, "Of course that's not going to happen," he said.

Mr. Gore, speaking after a White House event on law-enforcement, said that legislators risked defying "the wishes of the American people." Americans of both parties, he said, strongly favored censure as an alternative to impeachment and as a means to "give the

and the censure that they feel is ap propriate." He criticized the House Republican leadership for vowing to block a censure vote and instead putting the country "through this long ordeal."

president the punishment and the rebuke

Mr. Gore said, however, that he was not directly contacting the 20 or so undeclared Republican legislators who will tip the balance when the House votes. The House is expected to convene its

session on the four articles of impeachment at about 10 A.M. on Thursday. House leaders say they will entertain at least six hours of debate, then probably vote on the four articles quickly. Some legislators predicted Monday that the vote tally Thursday would be

within a single-digit margin of the 218

See CLINTON, Page 4



racy are

Mr. Gore at the White House on Monday. He accused Republican leaders of fostering a 'long ordeal.'

Will Impeachment Affect 2000 Vote?

By the 2000 election, Republicans figure, voters who oppose impeachment will have forgotten all about it. Page 4.

 Moderate Republicans grapple with their options. Page 4. • Advocates of censure turn attention to Senate. Page 3.

AGENDA

U.S. Extends Terrorist Warning in Gulf

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The State Department said Monday that it had expanded its warning for Amer-ican diplomats and citizens to seven Gulf nations as potential terrorist targets, with the possibility of an attack in the next 30 days.

James Foley, a department spokesman, said the warning was "based on information we deem to be credible and serious."

U.S. embassies in Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain and Yemen are warn-

The Dollar

115.525

5.529

1.6935

8.695.60

1,141.18

1,966.86

- 2.17%

-- 3.08%

ing Americans that they have "information indicating a strong possibility that terrorist elements are planning an attack against U.S. targets in the Gulf, possibly in the next 30 days," Mr. Foley said. He implied that any U.S.-related

facility, private or government, could be at risk. "All American citizens should re-

main alert to any suspicious activity and take precautionary steps to reduce the profile and vulnerability of any U.S. facilities," he said.

Shell Plans Sell-Offs Monday 9 4 P.M. previous close To Improve Profits 1.6495 116.62 5.5275 1.689 percent change -- 1.43%

Royal Dutch/Shell Group, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, said Monday it would sell off 40 percent of its chemicals businesses and take \$4.5 billion in special charges as part of a sweeping re-organization designed to improve its return on capital. Page 15.

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Switzerland Keeps a Wary Eye on Neighbors' Euro

By Charles Trueheart Washington Post Service

BERN - For generations, the Swiss have been raised on a diet of difference. They were taught that Switzerland is an island of neutrality in a continent of strife, a fortress of orderly prosperity in a Europe beser by high taxes, high unemployment and high interest rates. Being out of step with their neighbors was a national virtue and Switzerland's post-

Newsstand Prices

Bahrain......1.000 BD Malta...

most stable countries in the TO THE EURO

world was proof of it. True to that comforting heritage, and thanks to national.

plebiscites that decide all important policy changes, 1 9
Switzerland has repeatedly declined over the years to take
part in the march of European unity, just as it has said no to membership in

So come January, when the countries surrounding Switzerland will shed their national currencies and adopt a common currency, the new euro, the 7 million Swiss will keep their precious franc rather than risk its dilution and with it their

independence. Georg Moser, who operates a leathergoods stall in an outdoor market here in the capital, recited a litary of reasons

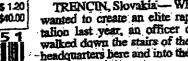
why Switzerland is better off on its own than as part of a pan-European morass.

"We've got our troubles, but it's not so bad here," Mr. Moser said, stamping his feet against the chill evening. "Look at the Portuguese and the Spanish they don't have the same values as we do. I don't trust the Germans. The French can be troublesome, you know. And how can we control what's going

See SWISS, Page 10

NATO and the United Nations. Pentagon Building Ties and Security Across Former Soviet Empire Clark, NATO's commander and the head of the By Dana Priest

Cyprus C2 1.00 Nigeria 12600 Naina Dermark 17 OKr Oman 1.250 OR Friland 12.00 FM Qatar 10.00 QR Gibrafiar £ 0.85 Rep. ireland IR £1.10 Great Britain UK £1.00 Saudi Arabia....10 SR SE 5.50 S. Altrica R16 incl VAT Kenya K. SH. 160 U.S. MR. (Eur.) \$ 1.20



Washington Post Service TRENÇIN, Slovakia - When the Siovak Army wanted to create an elite rapid deployment battalion last year, an officer on the general staff walked down the stairs of the Soviet-era military headquarters here and into the office of three U.S. military advisers.

Yes, the Americans said, they would arrange for soldiers from the United States to show Slovak field commanders how to organize the unit. No, they said, they would not equip it with U.S. sniper rifles. Although U.S. foreign policymakers kept the

Slovak government at arm's length for several years to show displeasure with the slow pace of democratic reforms, the U.S. military has been intimately involved in remaking the 42,000-strong Slovak Army. In twos and threes, hundreds of American officers have come each year to help the Soviettrained force shrink to an affordable size, decentralize decision-making, accept a rational budget sphere across Eastern Europe," General Wesley

system and submit to control by civilian leaders. The U.S. military is doing the same thing in 13 countries across Central and Eastern Europe, with plans to expand into the Caucasus and the recently independent states on Russia's southern border.

FF

Pound Dollars per pound

— 126.16

— 25.28

Once the target of U.S. nuclear weapons, these countries are now the site of the most far-reaching U.S. military-to-military contacts anywhere in the

The goal of the effort is to create "a security

U.S. European Command, said in an interview, Through the export of its military doctrine and training, the United States has built on widespread aspirations to join NATO to claim a prominent role in the security arrangements of more than two dozen countries.

"There is a great hunger for American values, ideas and security." General Clark said.

See ALLIES, Page 10

....1.250 JD U.A.E.......10.00 Dh

A Border City Courts the North Korean Elite

along the narrow streets leading to the central

business area, the North Koreans wear one badge

that sets them off in the crowd.
"You can tell them by their Kim Il Sung

pins," said a South Korean businessman, up

from Seoul for a few days of trading with the

Chinese. All North Koreans, he notes, must wear

the lapel pins, emblazoned with the head of the North Korean leader who died on July 8, 1994,

housing and other perquisites — rewards not for politics and diplomacy but for their value

"A lot of Chinese have gotten rich here off the North Koreans," he said. "They come in here with Western currency, American dollars. They

also change their own currency at the legal rate into Chinese currency and buy products with

As North Korea sinks deeper into poverty,

however, business has slumped. Increasingly,

the deal-making is done by barter. Fish and

vegetables are among the most common items imported here from the other side of the river, but

rotten," said a South Korean woman whose hus-

band often deals with North Koreans. "You never

trust what you are getting. It's getting hard to get

money this way. You have to check everything."
Rows of fishing boats line the banks on the

North Korean side, rusting and falling into dis-repair. A wisp of smoke curls from one of several

"For every 10 tons of vegetables, 3 tons are

the quality and quantity has been declining.

O PRIVILEGED are some North

Koreans here, the businessman said, that

the Chinese government provides them

passing on power to his son, Kim Jong II.

as business contacts.

By Don Kirk
International Herald Tribune

ANDONG, China - Twice a day, the decrepit shuttle bus rattles over the old apanese-built bridge across the Yalu River, bringing privileged North Koreans into China for another round of deal-

making, shopping and spying.
"They eat, they clothe themselves here," said tile factory in Sinuiju, the North Korean city on the other side of the bridge from Dandong. "When they come here, they can buy anything they want. Some of them come here often. They have connections. Their sons and daughters work for state trading companies. They are a few

For the North Korean elite, this hustling enclave of glass-and-steel towers, drab concrete office blocks and crowded apartment buildings provides the country's best access to the outside world beyond the tight-knit circles in which they move in their own starving society.

Several hundred North Korean officials have set

up permanent residence in Dandong, say Chinese-Korean businessmen who commute to small factories they operate across the bridge. North Koreans also cross legally into China at several other points on a frontier that winds more than 500 kilometers (more than 300 miles) along the Yalu and then down the Tumen River on the east, but none matches this city of more than a million people in size or importance as a window on the world.

Here, the North Koreans, operating from companies and shops fronting as stores for Chinese-Korean merchants, coordinate their trade along the border with China, by far their largest trading partner and source of diplomatic support. They also ship products from here by way of a fast-modernizing Chinese port a few kilometers downstream at the river's mouth on

In Dandong, the North Koreans find an open-ing without which many here believe their already impoverished economy could not function.

No one knows, however, which North Korean emissary is doing what, and on whose behalf. Some of them are presumed to be spying on other North Koreans, others on the South Koreans who come here in increasing numbers to do business and on the local Chinese-Koreans, China's largest single minority.

Many of these North Korean elite, say local Koreans, maintain residences on both sides, moving back and forth, making sure to show heir superiors and minders they remain above foreign influence.

"These are well-trained people," said a Chinese-Korean in a sidestreet Korean restaurant. "They come here to settle business deals, to talk. Though they see how much better things are on this side, they never say anything. They go back and forth, but some of their families live here." On the esplanade along the banks of the Yalu,



smokestacks rising from old factories beyond the bank. In a children's park, a Ferris wheel rests motionless. It runs, say people here, one day a year. Children's Day, June 6. "The North Koreans don't have enough oil for their boats," said Kim Byung Gon, a South Korean who comes up here from Seoul to expedite cargo shipments from South Korea to China. "They don't catch a lot of fish, so the

price of fish is high." The brimming markets of Dandong, say those who have seen both sides, contrast with the poverty of Sinuiju, North Korea's second-largest city, with a population of around 750,000.

For North Koreans lucky enough to get to come to Dandong, there is no better place for filling routine daily needs. "They have nothing over there," said one of the businessmen, referring to Sinuiju. "One hundred percent of their necessities. like soap and toothpaste, are from China." If living standards are low across the water, North Koreans maintain high quality in a res-taurant on the main street, which runs parallel to the river bank. The restaurant, Chung Ryu Kwan, or Clear Water, is a watering hole for Koreans from both sides of the demilitarized zone that has divided the Korean Peninsula since the end of the Korean War in July 1953.

They do not, however, talk to each other, at least in public. "North Koreans disappear from here," said a Chinese-Korean over a dish of hot dogmeat soup, a specialty. "You never see them again. Maybe they got too close to South Koreans. They did something wrong. They re-turn to North Korea, and that's the end."

South Koreans do not fear that kind of retribution but are also careful about talking to

strangers. "They say there are 100 North Korean spies around here all the time," said a South Korean after getting off the twice-weekly ferry boat from the South Korean port of Inchon. "Our own National Security Planning Agency has people on every boat from the South. Nobody knows who is listening."

In the Hong South Korea who spent many years woman from South Korea who spent many years in Hong Korea local businessmen sometimes.

No pictures,' insisted a

clerk in a shop selling

Dandong, China. This city

of a million people has

prospered by catering to

who come here to make business deals and buy basic goods that are unavailable at home.

privileged North Koreans,

North Korean art in

Yalu River

in Hong Kong, local businessmen sometimes meet their North Korean contacts. In the back of the shop, South Korea's Korean Broadcasting System, received by cable, is on constantly.
"The North Koreans don't pay attention to the television," a waitness from North Korea said.

"Or they say it's terrible, but there is nothing they can do. They are only guests here."

LTHOUGH China and North Korea are both Communist countries, Dandong has grown so rapidly as a capitalist center that it is easy to forget the city's vital role in the Korean War. Thousands of Chinese "volunteers" poured

across the Yalu in the autumn of 1950 to fight American troops who had punched north to the banks of the river against the North Koreans in the first months of the Korean War. American planes bombed out three spans of a

second bridge across the river on Nov. 14, 1950, but could never destroy the steel structure of the main bridge. In the park near the bridge, old women sell books of North Korean stamps and Kim II Sung pins for many times their cost in North Korea. "Anyone may buy them," said one of the women, a local Chinese-Korean. "South Koreans

like to take them back home as souvenirs.

Puerto Ricans Vote Against Leader's Drive For Statehood

By Mireya Navarro
New York Times Service

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico - Puerte Ricans have rebuffed for a second time in six years their governor's efforts to win statehood by giving the most votes in a stams referendum to a "none of the above" option that many pro-common above." wealth voters chose as a protest against the use of that option as a means of splitting the vote.

wire Mirrorate

The vote Sunday effectively main tains the island's commonwealth relationship tionship with the United States.

The five options on the ballot were commonwealth, "free association" (a form of independence that delegates certain powers by treaty to the United States), statehood, independence, and "none of the above." The fifth option won 50.2 percent of the vote, compared with 46.5 for statehood. Independence received 2.5 percent of the vote, and the commonwealth and free association of tions each received less than I percent

Historically divided over whe seek a closer association with the United States through statehood or to remain distinctly self-governing as a common-wealth, the electorate this time was splir among options that confused some voters and angered many others. The small vote for the option to maintain commonwealth status was evidence this, reflecting a boycott by the pre-commonwealth Popular Democratic Party, which claimed the definition of that option was misleading. The party had urged its followers to vote for 'none of the above."

The referendum drew a turnost of 71.1 percent of registered voters, compared with 73.6 percent in a similar referendum in 1993. Some leaders of the independence movement had urged a boycott of the voting altogether because the options were not defined by their proponents and because the results of the vote would not be binding on the

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U.S. Congress.
In the 1993 vote, statebood lost to the commonwealth option by 46.2 percent to 48.4 percent, while 4.4 percent supported independence.

On Sunday night, commonwealth leaders, who say the status quo needs enhancements but remains sound, said the vote reaffirmed the wish of Puerto Rico to continue its existing relationship with the United States a century after the Spanish-American War brought the two together. "This vote means that we have here people who are proud of their history, proud of their relationship with the United States, proud of their American citizenship but, above all, proud of their Puerto Ricanness," Anibal Acevedo Vila, president of the Popular Demorally. "This has been a reaffirmation of

the commonwealth." The loss for the statehood option appeared to be a major setback for efforts by the ruling New Progressive Party to sway Congress into authorizing a future binding vote on the incorporation of Puerto Rico as the 51st state. Governor Pedro Rossello has made the pursuit of statehood for this island of 3.8 million residents his main priority since taking office in 1992, and has counted on the resources of incumbency to promote statehood here and in Washington.

For this referendum, leaders of the statehood movement tried to divide opponents among the other four options.

African Unrest Blocks U.S. Initiatives

But Officials, Assessing Progress Since Clinton Trip, Expect Long-Term Gains 24-Hour Greek Strike

By Thomas W. Lippman Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Nearly nine months after President Bill Clinton proclaimed a new era in U.S.-African relations during an ambitious visit to the continent, war and unrest in Africa and diplomatic miscalculation in Washington have undermined many of the administration's strategic objectives. Several aid and technology programs

announced during the trip are mostly funded and in progress. But Congress killed the proposed Africa Trade and Investment Act, the centerpiece of the administration's effort to expand economic ties. And the eruption of hostilities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other countries has discouraged investment, diverted political energy and neutralized African leaders the administration had counted as important allies, senior officials said. *We are methodically implementing

the president's initiative, but we are also dealing with reality," said Susan Rice, assistant secretary of state for African affairs. She and other officials said the administration remained committed to what Mr. Clinton called "a new Africa whose political and economic accomplishments grow more impressive each month." But fulfilling the president's vision will be more difficult and take longer than they expected.

The most recent casualty was a cabinet-level forum on economic cooperation that was to have taken place in Washington last week. After inviting 17 countries it identified as economic reformers, the administration was forced to postpone the event when African

militia leader pleaded guilty Monday

before a UN court to charges of gen-

ocide and crimes against humanity for

his role in the 1994 massacres of

Omar Serushago, a leader of the no-

torious Hutu Interahamwe militia in Gis-

enyi in northwest Rwanda, was the second defendant to plead guilty to the International Criminal Tribunal for

Rwanda since it was set up in late 1994. A

former government began the mas-

sacres in 1994 in an attempt to ex-

terminate the ethnic Tutsi minority and

politically moderate Hutu who opposed

Mr. Serushago, 37, pleaded guilty to persons.

Hutu extremists linked to Rwanda's

third defendant was convicted.

500,000 or more people.

and what they saw as the high-handed way the invitations were extended.

During his 11-day, six-nation trip in late March, the most extensive Africa visit by any U.S. president, Mr. Clinton praised "the beginning of a new African Renaissance, "represented by political stability, spreading democracy and economic growth. Since his return, however, the news from Africa mostly has been discouraging.

A rebellion in Congo has drawn in the armed forces of nine countries and by Washington's count, five other military groups. Ethiopia and Eritrea, neighbors in the Horn of Africa whose leaders had been embraced by the Clinton administration as enlightened allies, have gone to the brink of war in a border dispute. Terrorist bombings at the U.S. embassies in Tanzania and Kenya forced the State Department and African governments to divert resources into security. Civil war has resumed in Angola. And rebellion and violence have swept across Sierra Leone. Guinea-Bissau and Lesotho.

Only in Nigeria, where the sudden death of the dictator Sani Abacha appears to have cleared the way for a transition to civilian rule next year, has there been a sharp change for the better, U.S. officials and independent analysts said. Nevertheless, senior officials said the

administration remained committed to the long-terms goals of a closer re-lationship with a modernizing Africa.
"Stuff happens," a senior official said. "But we need to keep our eyes on

the long-term prize. In no part of the world that I'm aware of do we try to measure our interests or our success in two- or three- or six-month time officials objected to the limited guest list frames." He added, "People want to

one count of genocide and three counts

murder, extermination and torture. A

fifth count of crimes against humanity

related to rape, to which he pleaded not

down two life sentences for genocide

and has drawn up indictments against at

least 35 other Rwandans, did not set a

Mr. Serusbago's role in the massacres

and described one incident in which sol-

diers abducted about 20 Tutsi who had

'Commune Rouge' and executed

them," the indictment said. "Omar Ser-

ushago personally killed four of the 20

sought refuge in a house in Gisenyi.

The prosecution indictment laid out

They took them to a place known as

The tribunal, which has so far handed

guilty, was dropped.

date for sentencing.

Rwandan Militia Leader Admits

To Genocide and Related Crimes

ARUSHA, Tanzania - A Rwandan of crimes against humanity related to

measure our success or failure in ri- Likely to Halt Transit diculous time frames."

'We've always had a sense of just how challenging Africa is," another high-ranking official said. "From the time of Nelson Mandela's inauguration until Ethiopia and Eritrea went at it last May, it was an unprecedented era of achievement, but I don't think we lost sight of the fragility of the institutions

and the fragility of the environment."
Prominent Africans said Mr. Clinton's trip has had a beneficial impact on the continent, despite the recent setbacks. President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, for example, said, "It brought the perception to Americans that everything in Africa is not bad. that there are opportunities, that Africa is not just South Africa and Nigeria.

According to a list provided by the White House, initiatives announced during the trip on education, health and the promotion of democratic institutions mostly were approved by Congress and are being implemented. These clude technical assistance and a loan of \$67 million to rebuild the electrical power system in Ghana; \$30 million in debt relief; a \$61 million "food security initiative"; a \$1 million grant for a malaria research institute; money to provide business internships with American companies for young Africans, and \$120 million for education programs. The administration also has launched a "Safe Skies" campaign to

lessen the danger of African air travel. "Those things are not sexy," a senior official said, but everything Mr. Clinton 'committed to during the trip is on

Not so the economic forum. The event was to have showcased 17 countries - slightly more than one-third of sub-Saharan nations - whose economic policies were deemed to meet freemarket standards for trade, investment and currency flows.

The list has not been published, but according to sources who have seen it, the circle included the Ivory Coast, Mali, Benin, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Uganda, Tanzania, Mauritius, Malawi, South Africa, Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia, Mauritania, Senegal, Rwanda and Ethiopia.

According to administration officials, diplomats and independent analysts, the conference failed to materialize for several reasons. By waiting to see whether Congress passed the investment act before issuing the invitations, the admin-istration left too little time to secure acceptances and organize the agenda. African ambassadors objected that the invitations were extended through U.S. embassies in Africa rather than through them, embarrassing them at home.

Now the administration plans to run a much more inclusive conference of African leaders to discuss a wide range of issues in the first quarter of next year.

TRAVEL UPDATE

ATHENS (Reuters) - Greece's biggest union will hold a 24-hour general strike Tuesday against austerity measures aimed at preparing the country for economic and monetary union.

The strike, called by the General Confederation of Greek Workers, is expected to halt public transportation and disrupt state banks, hospitals and other

Louvre Walkout Ends

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PARIS (AP) — The Louvre museum will reopen Wednesday after a six-day

museum will observe its regular Tuesday closing, a statement said. The employees obtained two extra days off a year and an annual bonus

strike by employees, officials said Mon-

Land of Rising Airfare

TOKYO (Bloomberg) — Japan Air-

lines Co. and Ali Nippon Airways Co. said they would raise business and firstclass fares on Pacific and European routes because of increased costs.

The airlines each plan 7 percent increases in fares on Pacific routes and 5 percent increases on European routes, effective April 1.

WEATHER



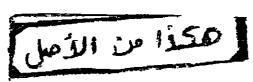
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THE AMERICAS

Discarding Censure, Livingston Wins - and Loses

By Eric Pianin
Westlington Post Service

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WASHINGTON — By vowing over grich of Georgia in January. the weekend to block a vote on censure on the House floor, Representative Bob Livingston, the incoming speaker, has enhanced prospects that Republicans will hold together to impeach President Bill Clinton but has jeopardized his hopes of impeachment the first test of his nascent

achieving new political county.

Mr. Livingston also has placed himself precisely where aides and close advisers insisted he did not want to be: at center stage of the impeachment controversy. Republican leaders voiced confidence Until now, the Louisiana Republican has Sunday that the tide was turning against watched from the sidelines with an air of Mr. Clinton on impeachment and that

drama unfolded, making clear that his from reaching the floor.
"I feel very confident that the Refondest hope was to have the business resolved before he succeeded Newt Gin-

Yet by siamoning the door on efforts by the White House, Democrats and some moderate Republicans to bring a strongly worded resolution of censure to a vote late this week, Mr. Livingston has made speakership and risked alienating Democrats and moderate Republicans whose

support he will need down the road.
With Mr. Livingston on board, House studied detachment as the impeachment they would prevent a consure resolution

publican leadership will not want to bring something that's unconstitutional to the floor of the House," the House majority whip, Tom DeLay of Texas,

said on NBC. But if Democrats and moderate Republicans somehow manage to achieve a rules change to allow such a vote, it would be a humiliating repudiation of Mr. Livingston and his top lieutenants - regardless of the outcome.

"This will be the first big test since Livingston effectively became speaker of whether we will hold together our narrow majority," said Vin Weber, a Republican strategist and former House member.

nario: impeachment with a bar on hold-

ing future office but not including re-

moval from office. "That's very controversial, but I think there's enough

room in the Constitution for something like that," he said. Mr. Hatch agreed

with the conventional wisdom that "the

Senate probably doesn't have the two-

But he emphasized that no one really

knew for sure — no nose-counts have been taken. Mr. Hatch added that if he

were in Mr. Clinton's position "I would

want that vote as soon as I could get it in

the Senate and I wouldn't want to drag it

out because who knows what might

uppen during the intervening weeks."

That was a reference to speculation about how long a trial might take —

from Mr. Lott's suggestion that it could

be done in a few weeks to others' pre-

dictions that it could take most of the

year and doorn chances of passing any

major legislation before the paralysis of

thirds vote to convict the president."

Mr. Livingston has already squander-ed much of the goodwill he has built up with the Democrats. He had promised a new era of cooperation with the Democrats, after years of divisiveness under Mr. Gingrich, and had counted on some conservative Democratic support for an agenda of Social Security revisions, tax cuts and education initiatives.

But that was before he announced at an impromptu news conference in Louisiana on Saturday, after the completion of the House Judiciary Committee's work, that he strongly supported impeachment and that censure was not envisioned by the framers of the constitution.

Censure is out of the realm of responsibility of the House of Representatives," he said. "We have a con-summional responsibility to charge or

not charge, impeach or not impeach.'

In the charged political atmosphere of impeachment, Democrats say that denial of a floor vote on censure would poison relations between the two parties and likely trigger renewed warfare.

The House minority leader, Richard Gephardt of Missouri, said Sunday: "I cannot believe — I don't want to bring myself to believe — that the leadership in the House is not going to allow the members to vote their very deeply held

feelings on this very important issue.

The White House chief of staff, John Podesta, also complained that "just three weeks ago Mr. Livingston said people ought to be able to vote the option of their choice." He added, "I think, if we look back, this process has been partisan from the beginning, and it appears that it's

going to be partisan at the end."

Mark Corrallo, Mr. Livingston's spokesman, said that the incoming speaker "knows he's in for a difficult ride regardless" of whether he satisfied Democrats and moderate Republicans. Democrats want the House back, period. They're not going to play ball unless

they have to." The Judiciary Committee's votes against Mr. Clinton have left the House seriously divided along party lines. Until this past weekend, Mr. Livingston was seen as the only Republican with the standing to broker a compromise with the White House and Democratic leaders over the censure issue.

But since wresting control of the House last month after the Republicans' dismal showing in the elections and Mr. Gingrich's decision to step aside, Mr. Livingston has largely deferred to Mr. Del ay and other conservatives who adamantly oppose giving Democrats and moderate Republicans an alternative to impeachment. Aides and friends stressed that Mr. Livingston was eager to avoid being tainted by an impeachment controversy begun under Mr. Gingrich. "This is not where he wants to start his speakership," said an associate.

POLITICAL NOTES

Senator Bob Kerrey of Nebraska announcing that he would not seek the presidency in 2000. His daughter, Lindsey, was with him.

OMAHA, Nebraska — Senator Bob Kerrey, Democrat of Nebraska, has chosen the course of prudence and announced he would run for re-election in 2000, rather than challenge Vice President Gore for the Demo-

It removes one potentially serious

In a private session on Sunday, however, he told supporters that he thought no sitting vice president who

sought his party's nomination had been rejected, forgetting that Vice President Alben Barkley was blocked at the 1952 Democratic National Conention because of his age. (WP)

For Clintons, a Gala On Key Day in House

WASHINGTON — By Thursday night, after the full House will have conducted hours of presidential impeachment debate, President Bill Clinton may well want to lose himself

at a feel-good holiday party.
Of course, if he would rather slink off and sulk, too bad, because rank has its responsibilities, and he and Hillary Clinton are scheduled to be hosts of a gala marking the 30th an-

niversary of the Special Olympics. Eric Clapton, Mary J. Blige, Sheryl Crow, Jon Bon Jovi, Run-DMC, Tracy Chapman and Vanessa Williams are all scheduled to sing Christmas songs in a giant, heated pavilion on the South Lawn of the White House.

The 90-minute show will be emceed by Whoopi Goldberg and taped for broadcast Sunday night on Turner Network Television. The Special Olympics program, founded in 1968, provides training and sports competition for the mentally retarded around the world.

Censure Advocates See Hope in Senate

Procedure Experts Say It Could Act at Any Point to Avoid a Divisive Trial

By Helen Dewar

WASHINGTON - With the House seemingly bent on trying to impeach President Bill Clinton, advocates of censure are now turning their attention to the Senate as the more realistic focus of their hopes for a deal to avoid a divisive trial. While the next speaker, Bob Livingston, Republican of Louisiana, has said he believes the Constitution does not permit a censure vote in the House, some House leaders have suggested that is something the Senate could consider,

assibly as an alternative to a trial on the impeachment charges.
"It is something that really is the genate's province," Representative Henry Hyde, Republican of Illinois, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said Sunday.

- For now, senators are holding their fire. The Republican majority leader, Trent Lott of Mississippi, and the Democrat minority leader, Thomas Daschle of South Dakota, and other leaders have imposed a virtual vow of silence on themselves to avoid the ap-pearance of meddling in House affairs or violating the oaths of impartiality that all senators will take as jurors for any impeachment trial.

Only after the House approves one or more articles of impeachment, if it does, will the Senate begin to set up ground rules for a trial, Mr. Lott has said.

makers predict, the Senate were to fall short of the two-thirds majority necessary under the Constitution to remove

a president from office. The Republicans Utah, has raised another possible sce-

control the chamber, 55 seats to 45.

The most frequently mentioned alternative — touted privately among many Democrats—is for the Senate to take the lead in drafting a censure resolution that could require a presidential signature, meaning that Mr. Clinton would be agreeing with Congress's

findings of fault.

It could include a fine or other "censure-phis." sanction, but only if Mr. Clinton agreed, because of a constitutional prohibition against bills of attainder, which are designed to punish a

particular individual. Mr. Lott and others have said that a trial should be conducted if the House votes to impeach. But the Senate could vote by a simple majority at any point even as the trial starts - to end the proceedings and pursue a different course, such as censure, according to

Senate experts on procedure.
The chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Orrin Hatch, Republican of

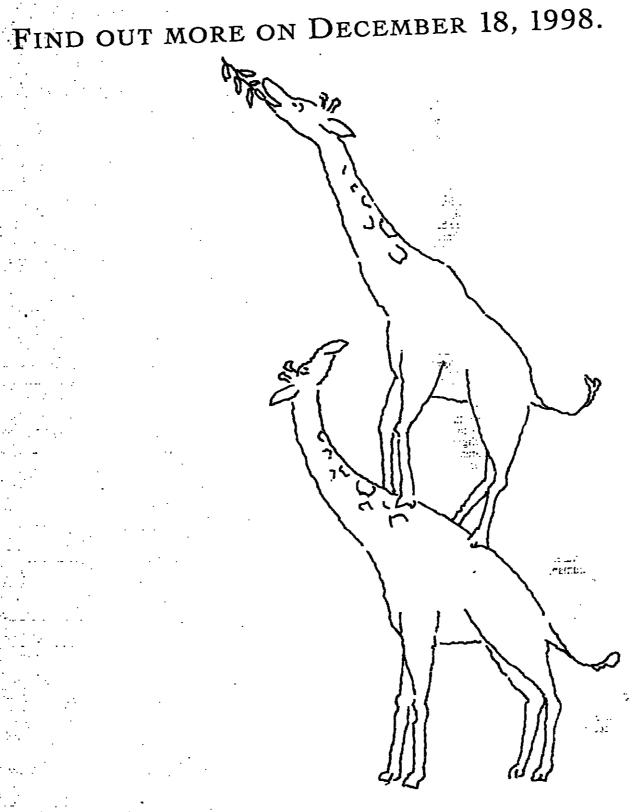
Away From Politics

a presidential election year sets in.

gasoline and to require popular sport

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OGETHER WE'LL REACH THE HIGHEST GOALS!



But speculation is mounting both on and off Capitol Hill about possible scenarios to ensure that Mr. Clinton rebeives some punishment if, as most law-

• An Ohio man whose infant son was killed by an air bag was sentenced to two 12-hour days in jail — on the boy's birthday and the anniversary of the crash — for failing to turn off the device. (AP) Environmental officials from nearly a dozen states are pressing the

federal government to reduce sulfur in

utility vehicles to meet more stringent

pollution standards.

 The Baltimore police are hitting the streets in force to prevent the city's homicide rate from hitting 300 for the ninth straight year. The homicide rate stood at 294 on Sunday.

An American Indian firefighter in Chicago said co-workers taunted him with slurs of "Geronimo" and mocked him with dances and chants. Because of his complaints, two other firefighters and four supervisors were suspended

Nebraska's Kerrey Won't Take On Gore

cratic presidential nomination.

The decision, disclosed here after a weekend of closed-door discussions with supporters from Nebraska and around the nation, disappointed but did not surprise many of the hundreds who had met with Mr. Kerrey.

challenger from Mr. Gore's path to the nomination. But Senator Paul Wellstone of Minnesota and former Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey have taken preliminary steps toward running and Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts and the House minority leader, Richard Gephardt of Missouri, are weighing the possibility.

Mr. Kerrey said that the formidable support the vice president enjoyed as the administration candidate for the nomination was "a factor" in his decision "but not the dominant rea-

By 2000, Republicans Figure, Voters Will Have Forgotten Impeachment

By Richard L. Berke

WASHINGTON - Prominent Republicans, some of whom complained that their leaders badly mishandled the White House scandal all the inquiry. year long, now say the party's march toward impeachment would cause no lasting political

fall because there were no looming elections.

Dismissing polls showing that the public overwhelmingly does not want President Bill Clinton impeached, many Republicans argue that Americans have short attention spans and will be utterly uninterested in rehashing the impeachment debate when presidential and congressional elections take place in two years.

"If the election were a week from now, this probably wouldn't be a plus for Republicans," said retiring Governor Jim Edgar of Illinois.

"But if you look at the year 2000, I don't believe what happens in the House Judiciary Committee or the House or the Senate is going to

the political version of whistling past the grave-yard — is all the more remarkable because most

ascribed their dispiriting election results last month to the party's perceived preoccupation with the scandal. But the lack of greater concern about political fallout helps explain why many of the party's lawmakers have plunged ahead with

Insisting that impeachment would be far from voters' minds by the year 2000, former Senator Alan Simpson, a Wyoming Republican who Republican governors, state party leaders and strategists around the country said in interviews that the stakes were far lower than they were in the fall because there were no looming elections. next month?' and whether the quarterly report on their stock will change.

Governor Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania, who had chastised congressional Republicans for not pressing other issues during the campaign, is nevertheless skeptical that the scandal would again backfire. "I hear people predicting a rash of Republican upsets if the Republicans vote for impeachment,

that they would lose the majority of the House of Representatives in the year 2000," Mr. Ridge said. "I don't necessarily share that view."
Roger Stone, a Republican strategist who was an adviser to Richard Nixon, said the former

Such newfound confidence among Republicans — which others in the party warn could be the political version of whistling past the grave-

licans is based on their assumption — right or popularity since the early 1990s. wrong - that if the House were to vote to impeach Mr. Clinton, the Senate would not carry it out and the president would not ultimately be were impeached and convicted by the Senate. ousted from office.

Several Republicans also argue that Mr. Clinton's sustained high job-approval ratings do not tell the full story. They contend there is little good

"The attention span of Americans is, 'Which movie is coming out next month?' and whether the quarterly report on their stock will change."

will toward the president in either party and that Americans would come to understand that Republicans were only fulfilling their obligation in

Yet other Republicans fear that the complacency in the party could be dangerous: They warn that if there was a protracted trial in the Senate, the matter could backfire and Republicans could be portrayed as fixated on destroying Mr. Clinton to the exclusion of the pressing issues facing the

They could also be accused of caving to the party's right wing. A poll last week conducted by The Wall Street Journal found that the Repub-

Former Senator Warren Rudman of New were impeached and convicted by the Senate, Republicans would lose control of the House and the Senate in 2000.

parties' being haunted by actions of years past.

But Mr. Edwards warned that there could be did not pursue the impeachment inquiry did not pursue the impeachment inquiry.

"Unlike in the Watergate years, the principle enduring political damage if some party leaders

Most influential Republicans concede that they do not expect the party to benefit from the inquiry. That is why the Republican National Committee has gone out of its way to keep a low profile and not be identified with the inquiry.

Suffendering an important principle has white discourage their base of support."

Henry McMaster, chairman of the Republican Party in South Carolina, was particularly blust, saying: "Any Republican who doesn't vote for

The unexpected calmness of many Republican Party had slipped to its lowest level of licans is based on their assumption — right or popularity since the early 1990s.

Suffer short-term damage from the inquiry, most expressed confidence that it would not be last to express the expressed confidence that it would not be last to expressed to express the expressed confidence that it would not be last to express the expressed confidence that it would not be last to express the expressed confidence that it would not be last to express the expressed confidence that it would not be last to express the expression to express the expression

Ed Gillespie, a strategist who is close to several leading House Republicans, offered this assessment "We're better off as a party with the short-term damage that will result from moving There are plenty of examples of politicians' or arties' being haunted by actions of years past.

For example, shortly after he took office in political calculation. When we have a front-political calculation. Many voters never forgave Mr. Ford, and he lost to Jimmy Carter two years later.

"The fact that they're trying to get it all done before the end of the year is probable."

"The fact that they're trying to get it all done before the end of the year is probable."

"The fact that they're trying to get it all done before the end of the year is probable."

done before the end of the year is probably could now risk looking even worse if they did not a wise move that gives them a couple years to be very engaged in policy issues, 'said former Representative Mickey Edwards, an hours Republican who now teachers to be very engaged in policy issues, 'said former Representative Mickey Edwards, an hours Republican who now teachers to be very engaged in policy issues, 's said former Representative Mickey Edwards, an hours Republican who now teachers to be very engaged in policy issues, 's said former Representative Mickey Edwards, an increase a second response to the party is a conservative base. Speaking with a sease of resignation, some Republicans said they had Oklahoma Republican who now teaches at Harvard.

Oklahoma Republican who now teaches at Harvard.

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persisted with brazen talk of ousting the president and if Republicans "continue to be perceived as very partisan."

The partisan of honesty and integrity in government is now's Republican issue," said John McLanghlin.

Republican pollster. "If they surrender it, they're surrendering an important principle that will dis-

But while several of the Republicans inter-viewed said they expected that the party would to do. There would be a serious backlash.

For Moderate Republicans, Pressure Is On

By Howard Kurtz hington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Representative W. J. (Billy) Tauzin of Louisiana may have spoken for many Republican mod-erates when he said, "We're as con-flicted as America is."

Perhaps two dozen undecided Republican lawmakers hold the key to whether the House will impeach President Bill Clinton this week. Speaking Sunday, several of them wrestled with what it would take for them to break with their party on impeachment — and the news was not encouraging for the White

The message expressed most often is that Mr. Clinton would have to admit that he lied under oath — precisely what the president denied in a news conference in Israel.

Representative Scott Klug, Republican of Wisconsin, said such an admission would influence his vote.

"If the president's trying to throw himself on the mercy of the court, as you would in any kind of criminal proceeding, you have to admit your guilt," Mr. Klug said on NBC, "in this case, crim-

inal wrongdoing."
He added, "The president has very little credibility left with, you know, the GAZA: 59.000th confession this week.

a reason why we can maintain the concept that every American, even the president, is responsible to the law, Representative Brian Bilbray, Republican of California, said.

Mr. Bilbray added that Mr. Clinton

"needs to be telling the truth." Representative Robert Nev. Republican of Ohio, said that "the president hurt himself very clearly" by denying that he committed perjury in the Monica Lewinsky investigation.

"I think the president could have been honest today, Mr. Ney said, and "I think it would have helped me. At this point in time if he does it, it's too

In a telephone interview, Representative James Greenwood, Republican of Pennsylvania, also expressed dissatis- full of self-defeating violence and soulfaction with Mr. Clinton's latest state-

'When I heard him say that today, I turned to my wife and said, "That's it," Mr. Greenwood recalled. "If he had any chance of escaping this thing, he may have really damaged himself with that. Members are going to say to themselves, If this guy cannot say he chopped down the cherry tree, he has to be pun-

At the same time, Mr. Greenwood said, "We are all tortured with the responsibility to clean this all up." He added, "It is an agony."

Personal factors come into play as both sides lobby the moderates. Representative Jay Dickey, Republican of Arkansas, is upset with what he called a threat from the White House."

He told ABC that an unidentified White House official was quoted by the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette as saying, "If Jay Dickey votes to impeach the president, it's probably an indication he will not run for re-election in 2000. It's suicide. We will make sure it is.

But Mr. Dickey also said he was get- airport. ting "threats on both sides" from his

AMERICAN

TOPICS

Where Deer Should Fear to Tread

Each year at this time, the number of deer killed

on U.S. highways reaches a peak. This year has been

especially bad, and it seems destined to get worse.

removed 759 carcasses from county-managed

roads in the most recent 12-month period, up

sharply from 436 two years ago, reports The

Washington Post. The walk-in freezer used by

county officials to store carcasses temporarily is

no longer big enough; even the county police

captain has had to clear dead deer from the road.

There are several reasons for the killings. Re-

strictions on hunting and a lack of natural predators

In Montgomery County, Maryland, road crews



Amid welcoming flags, a young Palestinian peered out to see if Mr. Clinton was heading her way in Gaza.

Mr. Clinton "needs to help us, give us Clinton Pays a Visit

Continued from Page 1

ating another window for our people toward freedom, peace and prosperity, Mr. Arafat said.

This is a window, a window for the peace of the brave, peace with our neigh-

Mr. Clinton applauded Mr. Arafat for showing the "strength, courage and wisdom" to make peace with Israel. Despite Mr. Clinton's glowing words and hopeful tone, the Wye River accords have been unraveling in recent weeks, and the West Bank has been swept by the worst violence in months.

"The way ahead may be hard and uncertain, but the way you left behind is withering hate," President Clinton said. 'So we have no choice but the way ahead.'

On his arrival in the Gaza Strip, Mr. Clinton alighted from his helicopter at the new Gaza airport to a red-carpet greeting and handshakes from Mr. Arafat and other Palestinians.

president and his wife, Hillary Rodham linton, smiled broadly in the bright sunshine. A U.S. flag covered the entire length of the control tower, and smaller American and Palestinian flags fluttered from many lampposts and surrounding

From atop a platform in front of the passenger terminal, Mr. Clinton cut a wide red ribbon with the words - in English and Arabic - "Gaza International Airport," to mark the opening

At Mr. Arafat's urging, he cut several strips from the ribbon as souvenirs, then mingled briefly with onlookers. Hundreds of schoolchildren lined Ga-

za's main north-south road from the They held American and Palestinian

have sent deer populations booming. In Fairfax tinction in the 1970s. Only 187 remain, and all but

As a Palestinian band played, the But in a protest against the vote Monday to soften the Palestinian charter,

refugees at a camp in Lebanon burned the American and Israeli flags.

County, Virginia, for example, the number of deer is the four released Friday are in captivity. The fate a biomedical ethicist in Cleveland, told The As-

estimated to have nearly doubled since last year, to of the four is uncertain, though: Eleven wolves sociated Press that modern testing allows hered-

Funeral homes are beginning to collect DNA

samples from the dead to preserve a genetic record

21,000 U.S. funeral homes. The service costs

hair, blood and saliva sample from the dead per-

son, packages it in sterile kits and sends it to a

laboratory where a molecular biologist extracts the

DNA. A confidential genetic fingerprint is mailed

to the family, and the lab stores the DNA samples,

example, if a family wants to determine whether a

hereditary disease runs in the family. Eric Juengst.

The idea is that it could provide useful, for

which are made available only to next-of-kin.

dead and three others had to be recaptured.

eading "Settlements Kill Peace," and Bill Clinton, Welcome to Palestine." Secretary of State Madeleine Albright

called the airport dedication "a very important sign of progress here in the peace process." Asked if the Palestin-ian-controlled land was now a state, Mrs. Albright replied, "We're doing this one step at a time," adding that statebood was an issue for later.

For Israel, the main dividend of the day was the Palestinians' confirmation that clauses in its 1964 charter proposing the destruction of the Jewish state are

But a planned meeting of Mr. Clinton, delayed from late Monday to Tuesday

46,500. Meanwhile, suburban sprawl has reduced were released into the wild last spring. Five were

deer habitats, forcing animals to forage in gardens, found shot to death, one is missing and presumed

Some state and local governments say they are that could provide medical information. Experts

overwhelmed by the job of deer removal. No one are divided on the usefulness of the data, but the

seems to like the work. Thomas Greenbank runs practice is expected to spread to many of the

He says he used to like venison; now he avoids it. around \$350. A funeral home employee takes a

said. Israeli television said that Mr. Netanyahu sought the delay because he was not ready to discuss the issue of the release of Palestinian prisoners held in

Mr. Arafat deplored in his speech the continued detention of Palestinian pris-

oners in Israel. "We want our sons to return to their homes." he said. Mr. Netanyahu, whose political sur-

vival has been put at risk by hard-line opposition in his coalition to the Wye accord, has halted the handover of more West Bank land to the Palestinians. He has charged that they have incited vi-Mr. Arafat and Mr. Netanyahu was olence and demanded that Mr. Arafat abandon his plans to proclaim an inflags and signs in Arabic and English morning, Palestinian and Israeli officials dependent state. (AP, Reuters. AFP) peached, according to a new ABC poll.

CLINTON: Ready for a 'Reasonable' Deal

Continued from Page 1

votes needed to impeach. In recent days, voters have inundated their congressmen with frantic calls - either to impeach or not. Some members of Congress said they were receiving their heaviest flow of mail, faxes and e-mail in years.

A spokesman for Representative Suc Kelly of New York, whose 19th district is a mostly affluent area in the Hudson River highlands with a mixed political tradition, said the flow had been the heaviest since the Anita Hill hearings on the Supreme Court nomination of Clarence Thomas in 1991. Over the week-end, the office received 500 pages of faxes and 8,000 e-mail messages. They were running "50-50" on impeachment, the spokesman said.

These mountains of mail will await congressmen when they return to Washington on Tuesday or Wednesday, first for party cancuses, then for the decisive session Thursday.

So far, scattered anecdotal signs indicate the administration has done a poor job of reaching out to the undeclared Republicans. Many of them expressed bitter disappointment over Mr. Clinton's comments Friday outside the White House and Sunday in Israel, particularly his outspoken refusal to say he had perjured himself. He has admitted giving misleading statements about his rela-tionship with Ms. Lewinsky, who had been an intern in the White House, but denies that his answers met the legal test

Representative Christopher Shays, Republican of Connecticut, has said that A Watershed Sale he opposes impeachment, and he reed that stance Monday. He said however, "I don't have the same level of conviction I had a week ago," and added, that was never colonized, is now being

"I'm willing to reconsider this issue." A New Jersey Republican, Representative Frank LoBiondo, issued a statement saying he would support impeachment. Democrats had considered him a potential

defector from the Republican ranks. Some Clinton supporters and other onlookers have expressed puzzlement at the way the president, each time he speaks out on the matter supposedly to placate his critics, seems instead to anger

them by his lack of candor or contrition. Yet he remains on a perilously shaky legal tightrope. The conservative Washington Times reported Monday that the office of the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, had not ruled out bringing new criminal indictments against Mr. Clinton once he leaves office. Sources told the newspaper that Mr. Clinton was tentatively targeted on as many as 15 felony counts of perjury, obstruction of justice and witness-tampering.

Thus, any admission Mr. Clinton pub-

licly makes might ease his impeachment threat, but only at the cost of a heightened legal risk later.

process has been unfair and is destructive and divisive; that it could shake confidence on financial markets; and that a Senate trial could last for months, impeding both the legislative and judicial processes, since the chief justice of the United States would preside.

They say it would encourage future Congresses to turn too readily to impeachment to censure unpopular presidents; and they argue that, in the end, a wounded Clinton is almost certain to survive a trial in the Senate, where a twothirds majority is needed to convict.

While a majority of Americans still oppose impeachment, 58 percent now believe Mr. Clinton should resign if im-

itary disposition to disease to be determined by

testing a single individual. He also notes that DNA samples also could be used to determine paternity,

In New York City, two sidewalk Santas have

been arrested in a sting operation, accused of claiming to be collecting for charity organization when

they were really pocketing the cash. One got into a scuffle with "a good Santa" near Rockefeller Cen-

ter, said a deputy police inspector, Robert Martin

The "bad Santa" got away, and that prompted Mr. Martin to start the sting operation. The only official.

Santas permitted to work on New York sidewalks

belong to a group called Volunteers of America-

They can easily be spotted by the extra touches on

their traditional red suits and hats: white belts, and

big green buttons with the organization's name.

which might reveal unwanted surprises.

Secret Service Foiled On Arafat Search

Agence France-Presse GAZA CITY - A shorting

match erupted Monday between U.S. Secret Service agents and Palestinian policemen when the Americans tried to search Yasser Arafat's. official car before President Bill Clinton's arrival at the Gaza airport, witnesses said. The Palestinian leader was not in

the limousine, but the Palestinian police rejected the attempt by the Secret Service agents to search the car and Mr. Arafat's driver when it. entered the airport area.

The Secret Service relented, and

the car entered the area without hindrance. Mr. Arafat flew by helicopter, from his Gaza City office to the airport, where Mr. Clinton arrived

by helicopter from Jerusalem on the first visit by an American president to the Palestinian territories. Security at the airport was intense, with hundreds of Palestinian police.

men on guard and scores of Secret Service agents deployed inside.

THAILAND:

sold cheap to Western bankers. Led by a group of wealthy senators, opponents of IMF reforms have already delayed passage of foreclosure and bankruptcy laws intended to punish delinquent debtors by allowing banks to

repossess collateral. The laws, which the government attempted to pass earlier this year, would have significantly increased bidding prices at Tuesday's auction of unpaid business loans, analysts said.

The 13,192 loans have a face value of 371 billion baht, but analysts expect they will sell for at least 60 percent less, with as many as half not selling at all...

The 15 potential bidders each paid 500,000 baht to examine the loan documents. Brought together from the 56 defunct finance companies, the basiness loans to be sold Tuesday have been subdivided into 42 lots, each grouping an industry or type of collateral, such as loans to hotels or steel companies."

As a concession to complaints that the auction favors wealthy foreign institutions, bidders can commit up to four The messages Clinton defenders are times their capital funds by signing up taking to the people are these that the for several lots in order of preference. The deadline for submitting an envelope of bids is 1 P.M. Tuesday and results will be announced within 24 hours.
Unsold lots will be auctioned in a

second round, in which the government's Asset Management Corp. will participate. There is no minimum price, but low bids will be rejected if authorities decan them "artificially low," according to Amaret Sila-On, chairman of the Fi-

nancial Sector Restructuring Authority. No matter how little money the auction raises, however, knowledge of the prices will automatically push forward the next stage of Thailand's recovery, according to David Fernandez, a Singapore based regional economist for J.P. Morgan.

The amount paid for the loans will allow banks to estimate the necessary level of provisions for bad loans and hap break the ice with corporate restructuring as the new creditors start talking to the companies that owe money, he said.

Once the process gets under way, think we could see a rapid acceleration in bank recapitalization and corporate to structuring," Mr. Fernandez said. d Mr. Walker of Credit Lyonnais, with

was severely criticized by Thai authorities last year when he correctly predicted the fall of the baht months before it occurred. said early signs showed the Thai econdity had hit a pretty solid bottom.

"On a yearly basis, the 'headline' mint bers are still way out of the ballpark "the said, referring to the plunge in sales of cliss by 72 percent and motorcycles by 32 percent this year through October. By examining shorter periods making seasonal adjustments, Mr. Walker reckons Thailand's econ

bottomed out last March "If you wall

for headline figures to change, you already missed the recovery, he say

Brian Knowlton

هكذا من الأصل

on golf courses and along increasingly busy roads.

males and females are searching for mates, making

the "deer hearse" in Howard County, Maryland.

Meantime, in eastern Arizona, federal of-

ficials are trying to protect a rarer species, the

Mexican gray wolf, from human enemies. Four of

the animals were reintroduced recently to the

mountains there. The wolves, under pressure from

ranchers and hunters, were driven to near-ex-

them more likely to cross streets and highways.

The October-to-December period is the time when

EUROPE

Russia's Inmates (and Children) Languish in a Budget Limbo

By Celestine Bohlen New York Times Service

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MOZHAISK, Russia — It is hunch time in the children's quarters at the women's prison colony here, and 10 little pale faces are bent over bowls of gray mush, a blend of watery potatoes with a dash of meat.

The meal is not a big hit with the scruffy 2-year-olds, but for the women who are trying to coax spoonfuls into their mouths, the fact that there is any thing on the table at all is a small vic-

By their calculations, the Russian government has practically stopped paying a daily food allowance for the 64 children, all under age 3, who live in the fenced compound where their mothers are serving sentences for crimes ranging

from theft to murder.

"This year, for the children, we received 185,000 rubles," said Lyudmila Yareva, who as head of the children's detention center, the sum is greater—bouse can recite these figures by heart.

'After salaries and taxes, 47,000 goes to food, which as you understand is detention center, the sum is greater—detention center, the sum is greater—detention center, the sum is greater—so known is greater—detention center, the sum is greater—detention center, the

At the rate the ruble is going these days, nothing is just about on target.
Four months ago, 47,000 rubles was worth about \$7,000. Today, as the value of the currency continues its downward

drift, it is worth one-third that amount,

or about \$36 per child a year. In a time of shrinking budgets and rising inflation, when Russia cannot afford to pay its teachers or army officers a regular wage, let alone come up with the cash for multibillion-dollar payments on its foreign debt, state institutions like this one have been set adrift. At prisons and hospitals, orphanages and psychiatric hospitals, money for inmates — their food, clothes, medicine

and bedsheets — is being squeezed out like drops from a desiccated lemon. Here in this women's prison, the official daily food allowance for the 1,600 women is 65 kopeks (just over 3 U.S. cents). Down the road at a juvenile detention center, the sum is greater -

According to the Justice Ministry, the national average in Russian jails and

prison camps is 67 kopeks. But these are official sums, which in Russia these days are usually not worth much more than the paper they are written on. In fact, here in Mozhaisk, 100 kilometers (60 miles) southwest of Moscow, the women's prison actually spends almost four times more on its

children than its budget allows. How Mrs. Yareva manages to clothe and feed her charges adds up to another one of those baffling puzzles that explain how this country and its people are able to survive in their calamity prone economy. The answer is, as usual, a mishmash — involving both the kindness of strangers and a dash of native

The potatoes, for instance, come from a local farm which now relies on women prisoners to help dig up their crop. Milk is also "free," after the prison, unable to dig its way out of a mountain of unpaid bills, agreed to provide milk maids to the local dairy. Soap comes from a local store owner who, after

agreed to throw in a donation together with regular purchases.

But mostly, these wards of the Russian state survive on gumanitarka, the Russian nickname for the humanitarian aid that in the last years has been sent to institutions like this one.

In this case, toys, blankets, medicine and mattresses come from various nations but also from sources close to home: from the grandmother who periodically shows up at the prison gates with a pile of neatly stacked baby clothes, to the Association of Russian Aristocrats, whose help is acknowledged by the signed photograph in Mrs. Yareva's office of the Grand Duchess Maria Romanova, and her son Georgi, acknowledged by some as the heir to the Russian imperial throne.

"We run around, we ask, we beg, we do what we can," Mrs. Yareva said, a bitterness creeping into her voice as she remembers the days when the prison got more money from the state than it was able to spend. The last normal year, she recalls, was 1990, when Russia was still

some pleading by the prison wardens. Communist, before "democratism, or whatever it is you call this."

Even with help, the diet for these children is not what it should be. By Mrs. Yareva's reckoning, they actually live on 16 rubles a day, when the 'norm' should be 20. The missing 4 rubles, she says, would go a long way toward buying them the proper portions of eggs, fruits and vegetables that they

should be getting.
For mothers like Yanna Strukova, 27 who is here on a seven-year sentence for armed robbery, having her son, Seryozha, close by, where she can spend two hours a day with him, is for the moment better than the alternative. When he turns 3 next month, she faces a choice: Either he goes to a state orphanage, or she has to persuade her motherin-law, who already looks after her older daughter, to take him in.

The whole problem is money." said, shrugging her shoulders. 'Imagine, a grandmother on a pension of 400 rubles, keeping two children. She doesn't even have the money to travel up here and pick him up."

BRIEFLY

Holbrooke Holding Talks in Athens

ATHENS - With the Cyprus impasse reaching a critical juncture, the U.S. mediator Richard Holbrooke continued his attempt Monday to prevent deployment of missiles on Cyprus that could start a war between Greece and Turkey.

Mr. Holbrooke arrived here from Istanbul, where he met with business leaders from the divided island. While in Turkey, Mr. Holbrooke avoided commenting on the crisis over the Russian S-300 missiles, planned for deployment on Cyprus. In Athens, Mr. Holbrooke planned meetings with Defense Minister Akis Tsochadzopoulos and Foreign Minister Theodoros

Far Right Wins Rome Election

ROME - The far-right National Alliance snatched Rome from the left in a photo-finish in Sunday's local elections, in which the abstention rate hit a record high.

The Alliance's candidate, Silvano Moffa, finished just ahead of the center-left's Pasqualina Napoletano in the second-round vote with 51.1 percent of the vote. Turnout was only 43 percent.

The National Alliance leader. Gianfranco Fini, hailed the result as a "new departure" for the right. The left's surprise defeat in the Italian capital cast a shadow over its otherwise good performance in the rest of the country.

Vatican Is Silent On Pope's Health

VATICAN CITY - The Vatican refused to comment on the Pope's health on Monday after a report in the U.S. magazine Newsweek that said he would soon no longer be well enough to preside at public masses.

"When Pope John Paul II arrives in St. Louis, Missouri, next month for a one-day visit on his way to Mexico, Americans will see the increasing effects of his Parkinson's disease," Newsweek said. "Doctors who have seen him predict it won't be long before the Pope will be unable to great less course to be unable to stand long enough to preside at public masses." (AFP)

Poland's Passion for Cars Collides With Gridlock A Frustrated Warsaw Moves to Restrict Traffic

By Peter Finn

Washington Post Service WARSAW — From the boxy First to the lordly BMW, this city of 2 million people, flush with the new wealth of Poland's economic miracle, has fallen in love with the car. It's a tempestnous,

Since 1989, when communism fell here, the number of cars has risen steeply, from 193 per 1,000 inhabitants to 411 this year, outstroping ownership rates in such cities as Vienna. And the

buying space shows no sign of abating. Car manufacturers — General Motors' Opel unit, the Daewoo Group of South Korea and Italy's Fiat - have tripped over each other to invest billions of dollars here to sate Poles' hunger for the antomobile. Despite high interest rates, new car purchases — greased by easy credit - have surged by up to 40 percent

EU Votes to Ban Drugs Used in Feed

BRUSSELS — European Union 45-riculture ministers voted Monday to ban feeds to promote growth because of neighborhood in southern War fears the antibiotics could lead to drugresistant diseases among humans.

Scientists recommended the ban after a Duich farmer was found to be infected by the same drug-resistant bacteria as his chickens, indicating that the organ-

isms could jump the species battier. The EU had already banned 15 such antibiotics, and after the latest ban goes into effect July 1, only four products will be legally available for sale.

About 15 percent of the antibiotics used in Europe go into animal feed, and the companies that make them stand to bse several hundred million dollars, according to the European Commission, the EU's executive agency.

The ban will affect the most commonly used animal antibiotic, Tylosin phosphate, along with Virginiamycin, Bacitracin Zinc and Spiramycin.

Commission experts said the EU must be able to make a sound scientific argument for banning the drugs or face possible action by the United States in the World Trade Organization. Pfizer Inc., which makes Virginiamycin, and Elanco Animal Health, a division of Eli Lilly & Co., which makes Tylosin phosphate, were expected to appeal

a year. "There has been an explosion in the individual ownership of cars," Warsaw's mayor, Marcin Swiecicki, said. "It is a by-product of the successful

transformation in Poland." This auto romance is, however, unrequited by the road.

Warsaw has not seen a new highway or bridge built since the late 1970s. Ask Marek Wos, a spokesman for Warsaw's Burean of Municipal Roads, when the last project was completed and he starts to laugh. A deep belly laugh. His sec-

retary langhs, too.
Since 1990, the city has spent most of its highway budget refurbishing infra-structure, which had decayed under communism. In 1989, street signs were ilhuminated by bulbs, which often did not work, and all of them have had to be replaced with reflective signs. Nearly all the traffic lights were antiquated and worked only sporadically. Street lights worker only sporautizity. Sincer lights were often out. The roads were torn up, and 75 percent of them still need major repairs. The bridges were crumbling, and

at least one is on the verge of collapse.

Fortunately, there weren't many cars. But today, as more and more pile onto the same old network, the result, in-evitably, is han pulling gridlock. For Zbignew Aleksandrowicz, 45.

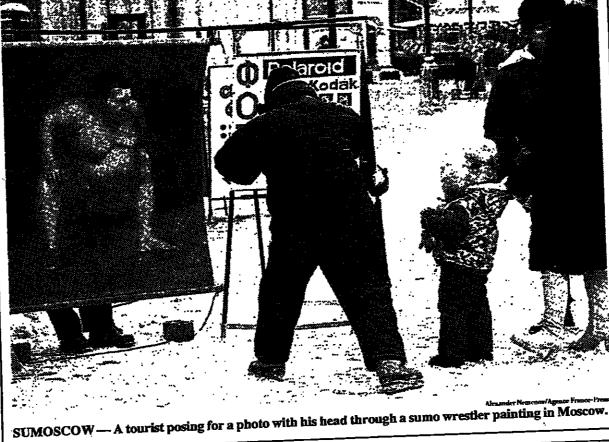
who commutes to his camera repair shop in the center of the city from his a daily ordeal - made worse by the need to drive around during the day.
"It's horrible, horrible," said Mr.

Aleksandrowicz, who remembers the prehistoric days — 10 years ago when he zipped to work in 15 minutes. Now he guns his Toyota for the first 10 minutes of his commute. Everyone, in fact, seems to careen down Jana Sobieskiego, a six-lane boulevard whose surface is so indented by the wear of traffic that vehicles shimmy as they

hartle along.

With reckless driving to get position, often in small cars that offer hule protection, the traffic crisis is also proving deadly. The number of accidents in the city is increasing yearly - by more than 30 percent in one survey period from 1997 to 1998. Moreover, Poland's traffic office estimates that 11 people are killed for every 100 accidents rate nearly 10 times that of some West European countries.

The city is trying to get cars and trucks off the road. This year it restricted the times and places heavy trucks could enter the city. Warsaw has no beliway circling the city, so all through traffic -300,000 vehicles a day - must go



The city master plan, developed in 1995, calls for a beltway and new bridge sings to be built in the next five years. Such new construction, however, is facing strong community opposition

try to use parking fees to price car vners out of downtown.

people park everywhere — sidewalks, traffic circles, medians. Within the next six months, however, the first of 2,000 parking meters will be installed. People who wish to park all day will be faced with monthly costs of about \$132 - a goodly sum in a city where the average

improving public transportation, buying new buses and trams and shelters for people waiting for them in the cold. Warsaw has one metro line, but the heart of the system is the buses and trams, which are crowded and often run late. Since 1989, not surprisingly, use of public transportation has dropped steeply.

But, Mr. Wos frets, it is not easy. Poles, he said, regard ideas such as carpool lanes as a return to Communiststyle enforced conformity. And, in the same anti-authority spirit, the few busonly lanes are blithely ignored.

downtown to get out the other side. another by-product of democracy. Moving on another front, the city will

Warsaw has no parking meters, and monthly salary is \$500.
Finally, officials are getting around to



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Germany Seeks Plan on Nazi-Era Labor with Mr. Schroeder's chief of staff and staff, Bodo Hombach, in charge of ham-

By Edmund L. Andrews and Barry Meier New York Times Service

FRANKFURT — Spurred by Germany's new Social Democratic govmemment and a buge trans-Atlantic merger, Germany's banks and industrial conglomerates are urgently trying to dewise a broad plan to compensate Holocanst survivors and Poles, Russians and Fer Europeans enslaved by the Nazis.

The corporations, from Deutsche Bank to Siemens and Daimler Chrysler, are eager to free themselves from a Thood of American class-action suits alleging that they profited by collaborating with the Nazis.

The dispute has echoes of the battle between lewish groups and Swiss banks over the assets of Jews who died in the Holocaust.

But it is broader and more complex: German manufacturers face a battery of lawsuits filed on behalf of hundreds of thousands of workers who were forced by the Nazis to work virtually as slaves in German factories. Many victims were from Eastern or Central Europe and in most were not Jewish, generating battles gyer who can best represent them.

Under instructions from Chancellor thard Schroeder, the German govcrument has held three meetings with vindustrialists since the end of October. Although the primary goal is to settle the laborers' claims, government officials also went to address myriad elaims against German banks over

looted bank accounts. Israel Singer, secretary-general of the World Jewish Congress, met Thursday

then with Rolf-Ernst Brener, the chairman of Deutsche Bank.

The World Jewish Congress, a leader in this summer's \$1.25 billion settlement of Jewish claims against Swiss banks, has also expressed interest in the forced laborers, but its eventual role is unclear because it does not represent non-Jews.

Executives and government officials say they hope to produce a compensation plan within two months. Deutsche Bank, which is seeking American approval for its \$10.1 billion purchase of Bankers Trust, is holding its own talks. Alan Hevesi, the New York City comptroller, vowed he would seek to block the huge takeover if the German bank did not resolve wartime claims.

"One should expect a solution," said Ignatz Bubis, chairman of the Central Jewish Council in Germany, who accompanied Mr. Singer. "But it is still an open question as to whether you can deal with all these areas at the same time."

On both sides, unity is lacking. Rival teams of American lawyers and Jewish advocacy groups are mired in maneuvering. German bankers, insurers and manufacturers have no common

At a meeting two weeks ago, DaimlerChrysler executives said they did not want to be lumped into a settlement with German banks. According to people involved in the

discussions, Daimler fears the charges against the banks are potentially far more financially damaging than those against the company. Mr. Schroeder has put his chief of

mering out a plan. Both corporate and government leaders favor a new fund to compensate Holo-

caust victims. Mr. Schroeder has said the government wanted companies to put up all the money, but government officials have suggested tax breaks that could in some cases effectively halve the cost Mr. Schroeder's role marks a big reversal from that of his predecessor, Helmut Kohl, who argued that Germany

lars since the end of World War II to Jewish groups, the government of Israel and Holocaust victims in Europe. Therkel Straede, a Fulbright scholar at Georgetown University and co-author of a book on the wartime activities of Volkswagen, says Jews made up about half of the 750,000 concentration camp inmates — the "slave laborers" - employed by German companies in

1944. Many workers died. But German industry also used 7 million non-lewish foreign workers, more than half of whom were brought to Germany against their will and held in inhuman conditions, Mr. Straede said. John Komblum, the American am-

bassador to Germany, has met with German officials, but the Clinton administration has taken a cautious approach.

This month State Department officials came to Bonn to brief Germans on American class-action law, a concept alien to Europeans. Hoping to gain leverage, some American lawyers, are trying to draw both the State Department and the German government into more active roles.

Scandals Take the Air Out of Japan Opposition's Rising Hopes

'No' From ASEAN On Cambodia Bid

HANOI - Leaders of the Association of South East Asian Nations decided Monday not to admit Cambodia as their 10th member in time for this week's annual meeting here. But they tried to allow the Cambodian prime minister, Hun Sen, to save face by saying his country will be admitted in the future and by telling their foreign ministers to arrange an admission ceremony at an unspecified date.

While all ASEAN members have said Cambodia eventually will be admitted into the regional grouping, at least three countries were hesitant to act now. They said the organization needed more time to fully establish the credibility of a newly installed coalition government.

Mr. Hun Sen, who had hoped admission would add further legitimacy to his government, sounded resigned to again being relegated to observer status for this year's summit meeting, but was upbeat about coming meetings.

2 Southern Soldiers Flee North Korea

SEOUL - Two South Koreans, listed as killed in action during the Korean War, have escaped from North Korea after at least 45 years in captivity, Seoul's top intelli-

gence agency said Monday.

The two, Kim Bok Ki, 67, and Park Dong II, 71, recently returned to South Korea via a third country, a statement by South Korea's Agency for National Security Planning said. After their capture during the war, the men had been forced into slave labor at coal mines in the North before escaping, the statement said.

Quota for Women **Upsets India MPs**

NEW DELHI - The Indian government put a bill before Parliament on Monday that would amend the constitution to set aside a third of the chamber's seats for women.

But the speaker, G. M. C. Balayogi, had to temporarily adjourn the body twice because parties representing low-caste Indians op-posed to the bill were so vocal. The bill is seen as likely to pass. (AP) By Stephanie Strom New York Times Service

TOKYO - What has happened to Japan's Democratic Party? Just two months ago, the country's

largest opposition party and its dynamic leader, Naoto Kan, were ascendant. Voters handed them the ability to

control the upper house of Parliament in June, and they united with other parties to thwart the governing party on several Now, though, Mr. Kan and his party

members have been flattened by scandals, dithering and internal dissension. Some opposition partners have abandoned them and made deals with the governing Liberal Democratic Party.

And last month, Ichiro Ozawa and his

Liberal Party turned from friend to foe, signing a tentative agreement to form a coalition with the governing party that will greatly frustrate the Democratic Party's ability to hold legislation hostage to its demands, its most potent weapon.

'Popular support for the Democratic Party is on the decline - they have no clear strategy and there's the whiff of scandal about them," said Takeshi Sasaki, a political science professor at Tokyo University

Even Yukio Hatoyama, Mr. Kan's deputy, is feeling glum. "We pushed too hard right after the election," he said in an interview. "There are a lot of things for which we owe hansei." The word, hansei, can mean reflection, contrition or self-examination. Mr. Hatoyama blamed his party for

stealing too much of the thunder when the opposition successfully forced Democratic Party plans for fixing the banking system into law in September, the first time legislation has been crafted by legislators rather than bureaucrats. He said the party should have shared credit with its partners.

'We pushed the Liberal Party from us toward the LDP," Mr. Hatoyama said. "We rejoiced too much when we were successful in getting the banking

law passed." Contrite as he may be, Mr. Hatoyama is confident that if a general election were called today, his party would score big.

He calculates that the Democrats

would win 170 seats in the 500-seat lower house, an estimate the governing party does not dispute, and Komeito. the second-largest opposition group, would probably win 50. That is not enough to secure a majority, but it would probably rob the governing party of its grip on the lower house.

But the Democratic Party has so far fielded candidates for fewer than half the seats that Mr. Hatoyama expects to win, and general elections must be held by October 2000, although most expect hem next year.

Moreover, the party's most prom-inent representative, Mr. Kan, is mired in a sex scandal that threatens to shake his bedrock support among women. He began his political career by managing the parliamentary campaign of one of Japan's leading feminists.

But a conservative weekly magazine has asserted that Mr. Kan spent the night in a hotel room with a former television anchor, a woman 20 years his junior who has been a consultant to the Democratic Party.

Mr. Kan denied the story, but in an extensive interview published recently, he conceded that his actions could have been misconstrued.

The scandal is being blamed for a significant drop in the Democrats' popularity. A recent poli taken by the Kyodo News Service showed support for Mr. Kan's party at 16.8 percent of the 1,911 respondents, a drop of 6 percentage points since September. The governing party gained the favor of those the Democrats lost, with its support level rising 6.1 percentage points, 32.5 percent.

The sex scandal followed news reports asserting that Mr. Kan had accepted a \$4.2 million payoff from Hiromn Nonaka, the powerful chief cabinet secretary and a senior member of the governing party, to guarantee the passage of legislation to overhaul the bank-

prefution Da

ing system.
Mr. Kan has also denied that accusation, and Mr. Hatoyama said both scandals were cooked up by Liberal Democrats frightened by the prospect of an opposition party with real teeth. Traditionally, lapanese opposition parties have been little more than opposition voices, offering little in the way of arternative policies.

But the Democrats do offer distinct different views on national security, electoral reform and fiscal policy, giving voters a clear choice.

Many suspect that there are divisions within the party about how vigorously those policies should be pursued. Mr. Kan was reportedly angry with Mr. Har toyama for refusing to yield on banking. reform, arguing that the hard-line stands would give the governing party the op-portunity to blame the Democrats for holding up legislation while the world was pressing Japan to move quickly.

Burma's Shan Rebels Wrestle With the Trappings of Peace 9

By Thomas Crampton rnational Herald Tribune

OM MU, Borma - To hear the leaders of the Shan State Army tell it, the nine-year truce in their fight against Burma's central government has done little to demoralize, disband or disarm their rebellion.

Instead, like 15 other insurgent armies in Burma over the last decade, the guerrilla soldiers have maintained their demands for political autonomy while being thrust into tight economi relations with Rangoon that benefit both sides, even if there is an occasional whiff of opium in the deals.

Gangs of gun-toting teenagers patrol the perimeter fences outside the army's heavily defended 3d Brigade headquarters, and bodyguards protect command-ers against bombs, bullets, poison or mysterious disappearance.

But the verbal agreement that began their uneasy cease-fire has allowed the Shan State Army to leave behind some aspects of the nomadic, guerrilla lifestyle. Youthful soldiers attend school; their families cultivate crops, and the army leadership has established a business office in Rangoon.

Along with these comforts of peace, however, this year the soldiers discovered an insidious new adversary that decades of jungle combat did not prepare them to fight: Mortgage payments.

"We spent all the money we bor-

rowed building a sugar factory and have none left to pay for cane to crush from the December harvest," said Sao Hso Hten, the army's chairman. "The interest payments are really becoming a headache, and I don't know what we are

going to do."
"We hope a capitalist will come in to help us. Perhaps you can tell some people," he told a recent visitor, offering to lead a tour of the freshly painted facility.

A recent low-interest government loan of 57 million kyat (\$160,000) is the kind of deal that Rangoon officials say nurtures fragile peace accords by helping develop some of Southeast Asia's most rugged and remote regions.

Converting jungle warriors into leitimate businessmen is the only way for the nation's puzzle of 135 ethnic groups to exist in peace, the government

says.

The Shan State Army receives monthly payments of 320,000 kyat from the central government as well as concessions to cut teak, mine gemstones and tax vehicles — including opium convoys — that transit their territory. This same sort of economic cooper-

ation, however, has also raised accusations that Burma is narco-state, since a small set of the insurgent groups collectively supply the majority of the world's illicit opium.

Most controversially, the govern-ment now has troops stationed in some

opium growing regions and effectively promotes money laundering by encouraging self-declared drug warlords to invest in toll roads, bus lines and banks.

"There is a fine line between maintaining peace and encouraging development, which everyone wants, and allowing narcotics traffickers to conduct criminal activities and spend the proceeds with impunity," said a Rangoon-based diplomat. "While Burma's government has made efforts to fight drugs, they will cross that line every time to stay in power.

The Shan State Army leaders insist that they earn nothing from opium cultivation and that government money cannot buy their allegiance.

"We will not be traitors to the thousands of our comrades who fell in our 40-vear fight." said Sao Hso Hten, pointing to the dead warriors whose photographs line the wooden wall of the 3d Brigade headquarters. "The chauvinistic ways of the Burmese mean they will try to wipe us out like the ethnic cleansing in Bosnia. We will use this peace to make our army stronger than ever before to fight for autonomy."

Burma's 50-year civil war, which at times restricted the national government to little more than the capital and its prized seaport, still rages nearby, with government troops battling a breakaway faction from the army of the retired opium warlord Khun Sa.

resettle in strategic villages and then shoots on sight anyone who remains in the no-man's-land," said Sao Hso Hten. According to the Thailand-based Shan Human Rights Foundation, more than 300,000 villagers have been dis-

placed in the last two years by this

"It hurts us to see fellow Shans treated in such a way," said Sao Hso Hten, shortly before clapping with pleasure while relating a story about 10 ethnic Burnese civilians killed in late October by Shan guerrillas. "We are at war and such things as these cannot be

The war is not always against the Burmese, he added, pointing out that more members of the army's ruling committee were killed by rival insurgents than by the central government.

avoided.'

When the government turned to fight other groups, we used to have celebrations," said Sao Hso Hten, referring to the dozens of insurgent groups and factions across Burma. "We have even fought the other groups ourselves to expand our area of control to collect

This splintering of insurgent groups resents a threat to noncombatants livig on the Shan plateau.

Insurgent leaders will make peace to get rich and come out of the jungle,' said Richard Dickens, Burma representative for the United Nations Drug Con-"The Burmese Army forces people to trol Program, "But if they don't spread



Shan State Army rebels guarding. brigade headquarters in Om Mis-

around the wealth enough, the lower ranks will lead bands of disillusioned 14-year-old boys into highway rebbers Name of Street, or

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He added, "This reduces the insura gents to an annoyance for the government, not a threat to national stability but it stops development and leaves the narcotics dependence in place.



مكذا من الأصل

INTERNATIONAL

Prosecution Drops a Mattress Into Anwar's Trial

KUALA LUMPUR - The pros-KUALA LUMPUR — The pros- Mr. Musa, deputy director of the genure it was sent to a control in the trial of former Deputy Criminal Investigations Department He did not explain the delay. Frime Minister Answer Ibrahim said of the federal police, said that the Aprosecution lawyer, Azal

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A senior police officer. Musa of the capital. Hassan, told the High Court that the "On the mantres mattress and a pillow had been taken from a suburban apartment where id," he said, adding that govern-the author of a book said Mr. Anwar ment experts were conducting tests passive. The gallery snickered. took the wife of his former private on the mattress to determine if the

Mr. Anwar has pleaded not guilty

the core of Malaysia's civil turrest. room near his office for three months toddler Afifah. The author of the Mr. Musa, deputy director of the before it was sent for DNA analysis. Monday that it would produce as mattress and pillow had been seized hammed, said the mattress wor evidence a mattress believed to be from the Twoli Villa apartment produced in court on Tuesday.

As Mr. Musa spoke, Mr. A complex in the posh Bangsar suburb

semen was Mr. Anwar's.

A prosecution lawyer, Azabar Mohammed, said the mattress would be

As Mr. Musa spoke, Mr. Anwar looked down and scribbled notes. "On the mattress I found several His wife, Azizah Ismail, rolled a patches believed to be seminal flu-string of Islamic prayer beads

Mr. Musa said that the police had taken blood samples from Mr. An-Mr. Anwar has pleaded not guilty to five counts each of corruption and week of the trial, Mr. Musa said that sodomy in the trial, which figures at the mattress had been kept locked in a larin, Mohd Azmin's wife, and their his political career.

book who accused Mr. Anwar of adultery has alleged that Afifah is the daughter of Anwar and Shamsider. But the police have said Afifah is her parents' natural child.

The prosecution's decision to produce the mattress added another lurid element to a trial dominated by allegations of sexual misconduct by Mr. Anwar, heir-apparent to Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad unnil he was dismissed in September. Mr. Anwar has denied the ac-



Azizah Ismail, wife of Anwar Ibrahim, leaving court Monday.

BOOKS

OPENED GROUND plected Poems, 1966-1996 By Seamus Heaney. 444 pages. \$25. Earrar, Straus & Giroux. SEAMUS HEANEY

By Helen Vendler: 188 pages: \$22:95: Harvard University Press.

Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani PERHAPS the best descriptions of Seams Heaney's extraordinarily poet's own work: His verse not only eans 'the unsaid off the palpable' but ise captures the "music of what hapboth in the domestic sphere and in the larger world beyond.

Eschewing ideology and "the diamend absolutes" of partisans on both sides in Northern Ireland, Heaney has sides in Northern Ireland, Heaney has calated during the late '60s and early '70s, areated a remarkable series of poems and "North" reflected the growing mood that stay "true to the impact of external of desperation with its chilling images of bones and graves and a "skull-capped

Happily for the reader, the publication of "Opened Ground," a new selection of to 1996 and demonstrating the consummate virtuosity of his work, coincides olence, a symbol, as Vendler observes, with the publication of a monograph on that lends the poems an imaginative scope has verse by the Harvard professor Helea that transcends the journalistic.

Vendler; the most astate and eloquent. In later poems, the Troubles will often

as a wonderfully succinct road map to a lurking presence.

The poet's verse, illuminating the effect Questions of political commitment that both private and public events have hover around Heaney's frequent re-extion of his style.

boundaries of the traditional lyric poem: ancestors to farm their land. in his efforts to articulate his vision of the

apprehension of rural life, an awareness of mortality and danger intrudes in many images of lice and rats and "a rat-gray

"North" (1975), a descrivedly famous rich and varied ocuvre come from the volume that Vendler regards as "one of the crucial poetic interventions of the 20th century," ranking with Eliot's "Profrock," Wallace Stevens's "Harmonium" and Prost's "North of Boston" in "its key role in the history of

modern poetry."

Violence in Northern Ireland had es-'sensitive to the inner laws of the ground." But the volume's most powerful poems use the archaeological image of "bog people" (bodies of murder and sacrificial victims, killed during the Iron Beancy's poems spanning the years 1966 Age and preserved in European peat bogs) as a metaphor for enduring historical vi-

critic of poetry at work today.

Take a back seat to more personal and philosophical concerns, but they remain take a back seat to more personal and

had on the development of his work, aminations of his own vocation. In the while explicating the continual evolu-tion of his style.

carry poem "Digging," the poet com-pares his pen not to the guns of political 15 She shows us how he has pushed the activists, but to the spade used by his

And in the title poem from "Station world, even as she helps us to understand Island" (1984), a dazzling, Dantesque his masterly use of sound, symbol, im- meditation in 12 parts, the poet is conagery and parable. As Heaney pointed fronted by a series of ghosts who force out in his 1995 Nobel lecture, his writing him to reassess his chosen profession: a "his been "a journey where each point of _ murdered cousin accuses him of con-durance of the private arrival" has "turned out to be a stepping fusing "evasion and artistic tact," of history and public grief. stone rather than a destination." having "whitewashed ugliness," while New York Times Service

Although the early nature poems in the ghost of James Joyce urges him to "Death of a Naturalist" (1966), "Door remain true to his artistic calling, to "write for the joy of it," to swim out on Out" (1972) radiate a tactile, sensuous his own and "fill the element with sig-"write for the joy of it," to swim out on his own and "full the element with signatures" of his "own frequency."

of mortality and danger intrudes in many of these pastoral lyrics, embodied in the deaths of Heaney's mother in 1984 and images of lice and rats and "a rat-gray his father in 1986 "caused a tear in the Such images give way gradually to a in "The Haw Lantern" (1987) tend to growing awareness of a wider social focus on absences, rather than a world that reaches its collections. questions rather than material realities.

To this reader, the results often feel disembodied and abstract, "the real thing" melting into a vague "republic of conscience." Lines like "High cries were felled and a pure change happened" lack the tactile energy of Heaney's earlier work, while the meta-phors in poems like "The Pitchfork" and "The Skylight" feel strangely predictable and trite.

Perhaps such transitional difficulties were necessary for Heaney to move on to the poems in "The Spirit Level" (1996), verse that attests to the poet's re-embrace and reimagining of ordinary life. It is a return, in many respects, to the farm world of his earliest nature poems, but with a notable difference: There is an elegiac music in this verse, a sense of hard-won optimism tempered by a new wisdom and acceptance.

The poem "Keep Going," Vendler observes, is a tribute to the life of the poet's brother, Hugh, who stayed in the North to maintain the family farm, "remaining equable through the horrors of the Troubles, and living in peace with his neighbors."

It leaves us with an image of everyday life surviving the terrors of sectarian politics and murder, and celebrates the virtues of "keeping going." It also leaves us with a renewed appreciation of Heaney's own art, an art, in Heaney's own words, that makes space "for the marvelous as well as for the murderous," an art that commemorates the endurance of the private in the face of

Iranian Leaders Pledge Crackdown in Killings

TEHRAN — Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei, and its president, Mohammed Khatami, both vowed Monday to work to halt a wave of deadly attacks against writers and dissidents.

Ayatollah Khamenei, in his first comments on a series of kidnappings and murders of opposition figures, ordered the security forces to arrest those behind the killings.

"The murder of citizens, whoever they might be, is a crime against the country's national security," state television quoted him as having told a group of clerics. "The ministers of

intelligence and interior as well as the judiciary must seriously pursue the case. "There is no doubt that the role of the enemy will be exposed in the recent events," he predicted.

Mr. Khatami, in a statement issued by his office, said, These borrible crimes have targeted not only our citizens, but also the prestige and authority of the Islamic regime."

Three secular Iranian writers who labored for freedom of expression have disappeared in the last month and were later

Two of them - Mohammed Mokhtari and Mohammed Jafar Pouyandeh - were confirmed to have been murdered, while the third, Majid Sharif, is said to have died in suspicious circumstances.

Last month, a secular nationalist opposition leader, Dariush Forouhar and his wife, Parvaneh, were stabbed to death at their home in Tehran by unidentified intruders.

In their first concerted response to the cases, supporters of President Khatami said it was time for the hard-liners in control of the "power ministries" to end the violence.

"Enough talking, arrest the murderers," said the daily newspaper Zan, published by Faezeh Hashemi, a leading moderate figure and daughter of a former president, Hashemi Rafsaniani. Two of the victims were summoned in October to a

revolutionary court after they tried to revive a banned authors' union, raising fears that their deaths were aimed at silencing No one has been charged in any of the deaths. Some

observers regard the attacks as an attempt to undermine Mr. Khatami, who was elected in 1997 on promises of moving toward political and cultural openness.

The official news agency said Monday that Mr. Khatami had assigned a special force to the cases. (AFP, Reuters)

BRIEFLY

Congo Rebels Report Downing Of 2 Government Aircraft

KIGALI, Rwanda — Rebel leaders in the Democratic Republic of the Congo said Monday that they had shot down two planes while fending off a government air attack in the east of the country.

They said that government forces bombed the small town of Kabalo, deep inside rebel-held territory, on Sunday but that the attack was beaten back and two planes were downed.

Zimbabwe, which supports President Laurent Kabila in the country's civil war, said earlier Monday that it lost a helicopter gunship in weekend fighting around Kabalo, around 1,200 kilometers (750 miles) southeast of the capital, Kinshasa.

Rebel officials say that government-allied warplanes. mainly from Zimbabwe, are flying daily sorties over territory held by the rebels in the eastern part of the country. The planes have bombed ports along Lake Tanganyika including Moba and Kalemie. (Reuters)

Le Pen Bars the Door to Rival

SAINT-CLOUD, France — The leader of the far-right National Front political party, Jean-Marie Le Pen, locked his rival, Bruno Megret, and other party members out of his headquarters on Monday.

Mr. Le Pen, besieged by calls in his party to resign, was holding a meeting of advisers in this Paris suburb when Mr. Megret, the party's No. 2 leader, arrived with his supporters and a lawyer.

Mr. Megret avoided trying to force his way in "so not to throw oil on the fire," his aides said.

The National Front, which voices anti-immigrant policies, made strong gains in regional elections in the spring and has maintained about 15 percent support nationwide.

(AP)

Algerian Prime Minister Quits

ALGIERS - Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia of Algeria resigned Monday, a presidential statement said. Major opposition parties had demanded his dismissal, accusing him of having failed to stop what they call widespread cheating in favor of the main governing party. the National Democratic Rally, in local elections last

Foes also held him responsible for the government's failure to end rampant armed violence involving Islamic

The resignation had been widely expected. He was appointed to his post in December 1995. (Reuters)

Grenada to Vote on Jan. 18

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada - The Caribbean island of Grenada will hold general elections on Jan. 18, Prime Minister Keith Mitchell said Monday.

The tiny island, known for its spices and a U.S. invasion in 1983 that ended Marxist rule, was plunged into crisis last month when Foreign Minister Raphael Fletcher resigned.

His departure left the governing New National Party with a minority of seven seats in the 15-seat Parliament. It was dissolved on Dec. 2.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

Nov. 18. The 41-year-old grandmaster

Time I against Benjamin, his positional pressure bore fruit when Benjamin a queenside attack with _b5 and _b4. missed a way to draw and stumbled into the loss of a rook for a knight.

SICHIAN DEFENSE 6 6-0 7 Nucl 2 Rei 8 Bb3 10 Nc4 11 b3 12 Nes 13 Nes 14 bg 15 Bb 15 Bb

The sponsors — Interplay Productions of Irvine, California; the United States Chess Federation; two local organizers. NICK DEFIRMIAN won the United Richard Buchanan and Craig Wilcox, and States Championship, which was the Colorado State Chess Federation—held in Denver from Oct. 30 through provided the \$72,000 total prize fund. The anti-Sicilian system with 3 Bc4

from Denmark defeated Joel Benjamin, and 4 d3 is a quiet mode of play that a 34-year-old Manhattan grandmaster avoids the heavily traveled paths, but it and last year's champion, by 21/2-11/2; in doesn't do much to elicit mistakes. Benthe final match.

Deliminan played a cool game A king's fianchetto beginning with throughout achieving an overall score of 5...g6 gives Black a better defense of his incorries and 10 draws. In the decisive king than 5...e6. It also prepares a pur-line I against Benjamin, his positional chase on the e5 square and in the far future After 7...0-0, attempting to make up for lost time with 8 d4 would not work

against 8...cd 9 cd d5 10 ed Nd5, when the isolated white d4 pawn is assailable. DeFirmian's 8...e5 yielded him a solid central formation. And he had the means

to prevent Benjamin from exploiting a slight weakness at d5. With 12...d5, DeFirmian took the upper hand in the center. Benjamin got some simplification with 13 Ng4 Ng4 14 hg, but after 14...Qd7, DeFirmian maintained his superior center. After 22...Qe6, Benjamin should have

tried to scare up some activity with 23 a3, intending 24 b4, and if 23...a5, then

After 27. Nf5, Benjamin was being pushed into total passivity. He tried to

break out with 28 c4, but after 28...Rd3 29 Ne5 Be5 30 Qe5, DeFirmian struck a clever blow with 30_Nd4! If 31 Rd2, then 31...Rd232Bd2Qg4!33Qf6Nf3!34Qf3 Qf3 35 gf Rd2 gives Black good winning chances. For example, 36 Re7 a5! 37 b3 Ra2 38 Rb7 Rb2 39 Rb6 a4 40 Rb5 a3 41

Kg2 a2 42 Rb8 Kg7 43 Ra8 f5 will win.
On 32...Qd3, there was only one way to draw - 33 b3! Thus, 33...Ne1 34 Bb2 Rd4 35 Bd4 Qd4 36 Qe1 brings about a level ending. But Benjamin blundered with 33 Rf1? and was destroyed by DeFirmian's 33...Qf1! 34 Kf1 Rd1 35 Ke2 Re1 36 Kd2 Re5.

After 37 Kc2 Re2, Benjamin gave up.



Position after 33 Rf1

Visions

TIME FORTUNE CON Time Inc.

Will Europeans accept an ever more integrated Europe? Or will nationalism prevail? What kind of future for Europe is being shaped by the cultural, social, political and economic forces emerging today? How will Suropean sovernments and businesses, and people in their everyday lives, manage the changes?

To answer these questions and more. Magazine in its December, year-end issue Time Warner is faunching, for the entire month of December, its first-ever integrated, cross-media, pan-European editorial programme: Visions of Europe. It will include an entire special

Dedicated programming for one week, 7-12th December on CNN International And a visionary website by Time Inc. New Media, www.visionsofeuropa.com Join us this December to see, read. issue of TIME Magazine, out December hear and download a forward-looking 10th. An extensive feature in FORTUNE vision on the future of Europe

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New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz See our Internationa Franchises every Wednesday

Clinton's 'Magic Words'

When it comes to duty and selfpreservation, there is no question as to what the content of President Bill Clinton's next speech should be.

The question is whether Mr. Clinton will have the strength and wisdom to deliver it in the days before the House of Representatives votes to impeach him. The 20 or so Republican moderates who will decide that vote want to hear the president say that he lied under oath, in those words. But when he spoke Sunday, Mr. Clinton did not come close to saying the magic words. He has time to speak them between now and the House vote on Thursday. We hope that he will, but the odd passivity of the president and his legal team provides little foundation for such a hope.

Mr. Clinton and his advisers have yet to understand that petulance is not a strategy, even when the opposition is behaving with partisan malice and distorting the constitution. Bob Livingston, the designated speaker, pondered for days about whether to lead the House toward a compromise around a censure resolution. But he backed down rather than face his tough-guy whip, Tom DeLay. If a future speaker cannot defy "The Hammer," as Mr. Del av likes to be known, imagine how hard it is for Republican moderates.

That is why they were on the Sunday television talk shows imploring Mr. Clinton to offer the concession that would provide the political cover for a vote against impeachment. As Repsaid on "Meet the Press," there will be no leniency from this political court unless it hears "an admission of guilt from the president."

That admission would not be necessary if the House vote was conducted strictly on constitutional principle! As Lloyd Cutler, a Clinton defender, said on ABC, this president's "low crimes" do not meet the constitutional standard for impeachment. But politics and human nature enter into this matter as well. Mr. Clinton did lie repeatedly, in plain sight, while under oath. In the language of Lawyer World, where Mr. Clinton seems to live, it might be possible to label such behavior as "ambiguous" and get away with it. But in the world of political reality, there has never been a Congress, Democratic or Republican, that would be willing to extend mercy and at the same time sign up as historic endorsers of multiple, bald-faced lies.

By refusing to bargain with the House, Mr. Clinton seems to be betting that the Senate will not remove him. It could, in fact, impose the kind of censure that Mr. Livingston is refusing to allow the House to consider. But whatever happens in Congress, Mr. Clinton's defiance and his willingness to gamble on a Senate showdown look a lot like the behavior that got him into this mess - irresponsible, self-destructive and dangerously out of place in the Oval Office.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Dissent and Death in Iran

Political murder has returned to Iran, with liberal intellectuals the target and conservative religious forces a possible sponsor.

Several prominent critics of clerical repression have been killed in the last month. The body of the latest victim, Mohammed Jafar Pouyandeh, was identified by his family over the weekend.

Iran's president, Mohammed Khatami, who has condemned the recent killings, is trying to ease the country's isolation by demonstrating that its revolution no longer countenances terrorism. But his efforts will succeed only if he can overcome those who would drag Iran back to the bloodshed and intolerance of the years following its 1979 revolution.

The two latest victims of terror, Mr. Pouyandeh and Mohammed Mokhtari, appear to have been targeted because they tried to revive a writers union and campaigned against clerical censorship. In October, both were questioned by an Islamic revolutionary court about these efforts.

Earlier killings involved Majid Sharif, a returned exile, and Dariush Forouhar, a veteran secular politician and human rights advocate who was stabbed to death along with his wife, Parvaneh. Mr. Foronhar and his wife interests of both countries. had both been stabbed a dozen times

when their bodies were discovered

Last month a bus carrying American businessmen was attacked by a group that opposes Mr. Khatami's policy of encouraging private ties between Iran

Though Mr. Khatami is Iran's top elected leader, he is outranked by the country's conservative spiritual leader, Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei.

Avatollah Khamenei and his supporters are uncomfortable with Mr. Khatami's efforts to encourage freer political and cultural expression. They have used their power in the courts to close newspapers and harass dissidents. Now some extremists may be going further by using assassination to silence critics

Khatami's cautious diplomatic overtures. But in the face of clerical resistance and Iran's growing economic problems, it is still not clear if Mr. Khatami's moderate domestic and foreign policies will prevail. A return to revolutionary terror in Iran bodes poorly for ending the chill between Tehran and Washington, even though a continued thaw would serve the best

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Unlikely Peace for Kosovo

From some of the self-congratula-tions circulating among U.S. and European officials, you might assume that the peace deal they brokered in Kosovo is working out. Unfortunately, that is not the case. It was a weak deal to begin with, and now, Slobodan Milosevic. the Serbian strongman, is flouting it.

After unleashing a seven-month war of terror against ethnic Albanians in the province of Kosovo, Mr. Milosevic promised he would let international war crimes investigators look for evidence of arrocities. Now he will not give them visas. He promised a general amnesty for ethnic Albanians whom his troops had rounded up during the fighting. But as The Post's R. Jeffrey Smith documented, many still are being tortured and sentenced to prison on the basis of little or no evidence. As many as 1,500 are in detention, and they are not just prisoners from the summer's fighting; the Serbian police arrest and kidnap civilians even now.

The Yugoslav president promised to allow 2,000 civilian "verifiers" from other countries to monitor the supposed peace in Kosovo, but he continues to delay visas for them and make their work difficult. The force, which the American diplomat Richard Holbrooke said in October needed to be constituted with urgency, still is not up and running. The peace agreement allowed Mr. Milosevic to keep more troops in Kosovo than the United Nations had wanted, but he is violating even that

generous limit. Nor has the shooting stopped. Just last week a Serbian deputy prime minister threatened both the international verifiers and Kosovo itself, warning that Serbian forces might resume their onslaught — "but this time we shall go to the end."

The head of the North Atlantic Treaty

Organization, Javier Solana Madariaga, responded that the alliance would not 'tolerate'' such statements. But so far NATO has tolerated bellicose actions and words alike. Partly as a result, most of the Kosovars displaced by the Serbs' summer bombardment, while they have descended from the mountains and no longer face starvation, still have not returned to their homes. Those who have returned usually have found that Serbian forces have destroyed their houses, poisoned their wells and boobytrapped their farms with explosives. It is hard to see how Mr. Milosevic can continue to claim to rule over a land to

which he so thoroughly has laid waste. U.S. diplomats pursue a political agreement that would give Kosovo a large measure of autonomy inside Mr. Milosevic's Yugoslavia. Their urgency stems from an understanding that fullscale fighting is likely to resume in spring. But Mr. Milosevic's scorn for promises should serve as a warning about the value of any pact he makes. Without NATO ground forces in Kosovo or democratization in Serbia, peace in Kosovo remains unlikely.

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

Herald Tribune

KATHARINE GRAHAM, ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER

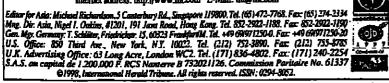
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Taking France's National Front Further to the Right?

PARIS — France's extreme-right National Front has exploded because of the ambitions and vanity of its leaders. Bruno Mégret, a younger challenger to the party's founder, Jean-Marie Le Pen, has provoked a split in the movement which guarantees to end the National Front as it now exists.

The party currently receives 12 to 15 percent of the vote in French elections. Mr. Mégret's ambition is to move it into the political mainstream, as the Italian Gianfranco Fini did in his country by purging, refurbishing, renaming and modernizing Italy's far-right movement.

The members of the Italian movement thereby become candidates for coalition with the main Italian conservative parties. Mr. Mégret wants one day to have a part in government,

indeed to govern.

Mr. Le Pen ostensibly has wanted the same thing but actually relished the role that he and his party played as political freebooters — saying the un-sayable, shocking the respectable, taking pleasure in notoriety and isolation. So long as he leads the National Front. it has no chance of escaping the mar-gins of French political life. It can only be a spoiler.

Mr. Mégret is an educated man, a product of two elite French "grandes écoles" and of the graduate school of the University of California at Berkeley. Politically ambitious, he joined the By William Pfaff

National Front to make use of it. He was rapidly promoted as a potential successor to the National Front's founder. Mr. Mégret soon learned, however,

that Mr. Le Pen wanted followers, not successors. He is now in his 70s but displays no willingness to step aside for a new leader. The crisis began last summer when

Mr. Le Pen, whom the courts have temporarily barred from public office because of a violent incident in a 1997 election, revealed that he intended to put his wife at the head of the National Front list in the European Parliament elections due next spring. He refused to allow Mr. Mégret to lead the list, and tried to exclude the latter's sympathizers as well.

The result was that Mr. Mégret, with other ambitious younger men in the movement, organized what Mr. Le Pen has accurately described as a putsch.

The party now is split. There undoubtedly will be two rival lists in the European Parliament race, whose outcome will decide whether the aging but pugnacious Mr. Le Pen or the ambitious Mr. Mégret leads France's far right into the future.

The latter would seem a more dangerous threat to the conservative parties than Mr. Le Pen. Until now, the major French parties have refused any

electoral cooperation with the National Front. Mr. Mégret's tactic in recent months of having the National Front vote with mainstream conservatives to block the left in several regional councils has produced some success in breaking that quarantine.

He makes a plansible contrast to the rabble-rousing Jean-Marie Le Pen. One might think him likely to attract mainstream voters who share the National

Bruno Mégret's ideas are unlikely to appeal to the Front's core voters.

Front's preoccupation with African and North African immigrants in France but have been put off by the party's disreputable ways of presenting the is-

sue and by its "skinhead" image.

This is misleading. Mr. Mégret is the product of an intellectual movement which for a number of years has been attempting to re-establish in France a commitment to elitism, eugenics and paganism. This intellectual "new right" is also against the European Union and is profoundly anti-American.

The movement argues that France and Europe suffer from having abandoned the warrior values of the North European "man of the forest" and substituted the ideas of submission and

renunciation taught by Judaism and Christianity, monotheist religions of the "peoples of the desert."

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These are not ideas that are likely to win a warm response from mainstream French voters. Even the voter who until now has backed the National Front because it promised a defense against the violence of immigrant ghettos, or out of disgust with the corruption or broken promises of the mainstream parties, is likely to balk at the notion that his struggle is really that of the Aryan warrior against "cosmopolitanism."

Traditionalist Catholics — members of the break-away movement, condemned by Rome, which defends the Latin Mass and thinks the church in the hands of subversives — have been very important to the National Front. Recommendations of a virile paganism

will not please them.

The National Front has been a populist movement of social and political protest directed against immigrants and the disruptions produced in France by the social changes of recent decades. Mr. Mégret is attempting to take it over in the interest of ideas which the mass of its members would find strange, and which many would repudiate.

There is a contradiction here which seems likely to undermine whatever Mr. Mégret might do to modernize the movement's style and stance.

Insernational Herald Tribune.

Los Angeles Tunes Syndicate.

For an Alabama Newspaper, Clinton Still Must Resign

DOTHAN, Alabama — Even from our corner of southeast Alahama, about 710 miles (1100 kilometers) from the Washington political scene, we saw the prospect of the im-peachment of President Bill

Clinton coming.
Two days after the president stood before the American and the United States. people on Aug. 17 and said on television those three longawaited words, "I misled people," the six members of the editorial board of The Dothan Eagle gathered around a conference table to discuss what we

should say. If you take away the highlevel witnesses and the appear-

The Clinton administration has been right to respond positively to Mr.

UALA LUMPUR — Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad of Malaysia's policy of capital controls, for what used to be Asia's most internationalized manufacturing economy, is

ance of the independent coun-

sel, Kenneth Starr, the House

stroy the currency.

means of financing a current account deficit, the gap will have to be closed by shrinking domestic purchasing power. Mr. Mahathir will then be unable to placate the masses, especially majority Malays on whose support his party, the erning coalition, depends, Social tensions will mount and opposition to his regime will forced to go.

After sacking Bank Negara's governor and imposing capital controls in September, Mr. Mahathir forced the central bank to make substantial cuts in interest rates and the mandatory re-

Edinburgh Review about a

long-forgotten work of fic-

tion: "The main question as to

a novel is — did it amuse?

were you surprised at dinner

coming so soon? did you mis-

take eleven for ten? and

twelve for eleven? were you

too late to dress? and did you

sit up beyond the usual hour?

If a novel produces these ef-

- story, language, love, scan-

Now, this is an ironclad

measure of entertainment, but

not of literature. It has the ami-

able demerit of allowing each

reader to come to his own con-

literary seduction. The novels

that induce this pleasant sen-

as different as the dinners that

ted readers, as different, in

fact, as the readers who at last

put down their books and take

up their forks. This standard

Norman Maifer's "The Naked

and the Dead," John Updike's

Rabbit Angstrom novels, and

Tom Wolfe's new novel, "A

dal itself cannot save it."

By Bill Perkins

Judiciary Committee's recent listed all the reasons Mr. Clinjourney followed the path we ton should step down. walked months ago.

Instead of partisan bickering, we had reserved differences of opinion. But our members were as resolute in their arguments as anyone in Washington. We traveled that road and

reached the conclusion the committee reached: that president must go. Back in August, however, no one on our editorial board wanted an impeachment.

The prospect seemed an unnecessary embarrassment. The publisher of our newspaper, Steve McPhaul put the resignation issue on the table, then

Heads bobbed in agreement. I reasoned that the illicit sex,

however reprehensible, was not

the point. It was the lie. Only two editors dissented. It was not until we posted our editorial on Arianna Huffington's resignation Web site that we learned we were the first newspaper in Alabama — and among the first of more than

Mr. Clinton to step down. Over the next few months many critics said that we and the other papers overreacted.

150 across the nation — asking

embarrassed then and we aren't now: if anything, our position has grown stronger. I would guess that the editors at the other newspapers feel the same

Committee has sent articles of impeachment to the full House, we keep hearing that this is all an exercise in futility. Even if the House votes to

impeach, the Senate will not remove the president. Lying about illicit sex is not grounds for impeachment, the

told us last week.

After the election, we were Nixon's subterfuge was some-all supposed to be embarrassed how worse than Mr. Clinton's

for our stand. But we weren't because he used government agencies to cover up his lies. We think that argume lied. Mr. Clinton lied.

Now that the House Judiciary

president's expert witnesses They argued that Richard

misses the point. Mr. Nixon ed Mr. Culton lied.
Only Mr. Nixon stepped down before he caused the nation any more grief.

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32.

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As the sentiment of the American public began to shift against an impeachment, our editorial board did not waver., Even one of the two original dissenters changed her mind "It's been enough of a dis grace," she said.

The writer is editorial page editor of The Dothan Eagle in Dothan, Alabama. He contributed this comment to The New

Mahathir's Economic Policies Could Bring His Downfall

nothing short of disaster. sia's central bank, Bank Negara, to inject a huge expansion of money into the economy will only generate inflation and de-

In a country that now has no dominant partner in the govgrow. Eventually he will be By David Roche

serves of commercial banks. This has released more than 43 billion ringgit (\$11.35 billion) into the banking system, or nearly 20 percent of gross do-

The government is now instructing banks to increase lending. In effect, it is trying to accelerate economic growth by giving more money to already bankrupt creditors rather than to productive investment. Many of the biggest creditors are companies that have close ties to the government.

The strategy will not work, because the cause of Malaysia's economic crisis is similar to the causes of the crises buffeting other Asian states. It is based on a huge overhang of domestic debt. Bank credit amounts to more than 160 percent of gross domestic product, and has been plowed mainly into unproductive sectors like real estate and finance. These sectors account

lending.

It's Entertaining, but Is It Literature?

NEW YORK — In the early 19th century, a critic wrote these words in the

By Verlyn Klinkenborg it because it was dead certain that Mr. Wolfe would claim "A Man in Full" is literature.

half the paperbacks embossed

have recently stated in reviews

not literature, all the while ad-

mitting that "A Man in Full"

satisfies the cold-dinner stan-

dard of amusement. The ques-

tion naturally arises, why have

they done this and what gives

and Mr. Updike declared that

"A Man in Full" was liter-

ature, they could not make it so.

Not even the literary critic

Helen Vendler has that power.

is literature is always a ret-

long enough to let posterity do

its work. What Mr. Updike

closely reasoned opinions,

ously because of their expe-

rience as readers. The fact that

both men are also writers has

almost nothing to do with the

case, though it gives the re-

sulting brouhaha a piquantly

The question remains: Why

Like it or not, deciding what

fects, it is good; if it does not them the right? Had Mr. Mailer

clusions about the value of a rospective task, and the two

novel, conclusions based on months since Mr. Wolfe's

the reader's own capacity for book was published are not

sation of timelessness will be and Mr. Mailer offered were

grow cold waiting for abstrac- which are worth taking seri-

easily encompasses works like value of their opinions in this

Man in Full," not to mention have they done this? They did

fraternal air.

Mr. Updike and Mr. Mailer

that Mr. Wolfe's new novel is for the last 25 years. He has

with deep décolletage.

pacity in property and manufacturing. As a result, the credit used to finance this investment bubble will never be serviced.

Malaysia's banks are in big loans, on which no interest is being paid, will peak at around 40 percent of total lending. Even after assuming a recovery rate of 50 percent on the assets backing those loans, and after taking into account existing bank equity and reserves, the government will still have to find 56 billion ringgit, or 22 percent of gross domestic product, to restore the banking sector to something like a state

of health. That is not the end of the state's need for funds. The government is trying to shore up the economy with 15 billion ringgit in fiscal stimulus and infrastructure packages. Malaysia's deep recession will create a deficit on the federal budget acfor more than half of all bank count of 27 billion ringgit, or 10 percent of gross domestic Overinvestment is also re-flected in massive excess ca-end of 1999. Altogether, this

He cannot make it so by fiat

either. To borrow one of his

own phrases, Mr. Wolfe has

been mau-maning the literati

advanced in print and at length

the argument that novelists

need to take the broad sweep

of society as their subject and

to base their work on more

extensive reporting. This ar-

gument is the rhetorical equiv-

alent of wearing a white three-

piece suit in public, a way of

attracting attention. It is es-

pecially ridiculous in the con-

text of this fracas with Mr.

Mailer and Mr. Updike, much

of whose work is as craftily

and extensively reported - as

evocative of its moment - as

Each of these three men has

written works of literature.

Dinners may go cold and read-

ers may go hungry over "A Man in Full," but Mr. Wolfe's

most lasting writing has been in the genre of nonfiction.

writers, he has overvalued the

novel by abandoning nonfic-

tion, and, ironically, he has

underestimated the extent to

which all fiction, not just his

The New York Times.

own, is based on fact.

Ironically, like many

even Balzac could wish.

adds up to a resource require- cash surpluses, as can Malay for

of gross domestic product.

Can the Malaysian government raise such a large amount without printing money and

To deal with the banks' bad debt problem, Bank Negara was ordered to redefine nonperforming loans. Bad debts are now defined as loans that are not serviced after six months, rather than the normal three. And they are no longer bad debts once repayments are made for six consecutive months, rather than 12 as before. So, in a stroke, the government has "solved"

To finance part of the resource gap, the government is hoping to get about 17.5 billion ringgit from foreign official sources. Japan and Taiwan are reportedly prepared to provide some aid. Perhaps the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank will also contribute. But the bulk of the financing must come from domestic savings because the effective closing of Malaysia's capital markets to foreign participation

cuts off other sources. Government and institutional cash cows in Malaysia could bring in a further 30 billion ringgit. Malaysians contribute to a state-run Employee Provident Fund that runs a sizable surplus of receipts over payments every

Also, the state-owned oil company, Petronas, can be prevailed upon to buy new issues

ment of more than 98 billion sian life assurance companies. ringgit, or a stunning 37 percent: Bat that will still leave the govemment with a net shortfall of

more than 51 billion ringgir.

The gap will have to be closed by the governments The huge increase in ringgit put into circulation will not re-

main locked in the country by the government's exchange controls. Companies and individuals will find a way to convert their ringgit into foreign currency and move it out of the country. As a result, the ringgit's fixed

exchange rate will be undermined by an "offshore" col-lapse. Malaysian living standards will plummet tunemployment rises and inflation squeezes real incomes. Industry will starve to death on a dearth of imports of capital goods and a lack of domestic demand

The scene will be set for social upheaval that will force Mr. Mahathir to go. Luckily for Malaysia, there is an alternative leadership in the wings — or, to be more exact, languishing in jail - in the shape of former Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim Under new leadership, Malsysia can reconnect with the world, but not before its people pay a heavy price.

The writer is managing a rector of Independent Strategy Ltd., a global investment h search consultancy based in London. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

of government bonds with its

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO 1898: Court Etiquette

PARIS - An Englishman complains about the harshness of German etiquette. Armed with a pass he went to witness the arrival of the Kaiser the other day, but was ordered away by an official because he had not provided himself with a "tall" hat He knew enough about Court etiquette to array himself in evening dress, although the hour was ten in the morning, but he had completed his toilet by

1923: Graying Hair

wearing a low hat.

LONDON - Women in all walks of life who have followed the bobbed-hair vogue since war times, together with the further shingling and clipping the mode required, have been thrown into a nervous state by the statement of one hairdresser who has a distinguished clientèle that such procedure results in premature grayness. "These abbreviated styles of confident are turning Britain into a nation of gray-haired young women this authority states. As a result, there has been much consulting of mirrors and searches for the tell-tale gray hairs.

1948: Prince Charles LONDON - Buckingham

Palace announced that Princess Elizabeth's baby has been named Prince Charles Philip Afthur George of Edinburgh. This means the infant prince will be known publicly as Prince Charles, and when he takes the throne will become King Charles III. Choice of Charles as the first Christian name for the Prince took London by surprise No other member of the royal family now living has the name. The last Charles to occupy the British throne was Charles II. who died in 1685 after a reign of thirty-six years.

MICHAEL GETLER, Executive Editor

JONATHAN GAGE, Business and Finance Editor

 SAMUEL ABT, Associate Editor



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OPINION/LETTERS

Turning a Historic Event Into a Media Blockbuster

By Neal Gabler

the differences between the Watergate ering this story 28 hours out of every scandal about 25 years ago and the 24 as Keith Olbermann, a former current presidential scandal. It was a MSNBC host, put it. distinguished group, and its members loftily contrasted the political, legal and historical issues.

But they entirely missed the fact that Watergate was a historic event

covered by the press. The Monica Lewinsky case — even as it moved into the stately congressional hearing rooms is a media event with historic ramifications. All the appurtenances of a media event have been there all along the hype, the fabricated drama, the celebrity-

mype, me ranneased orams, me cerebray mongering of which the witnesses themselves were inevitably a part.

This is not to say Watergate did not have some of these same elements. It, too, became a show, with its own co-lebrities: the wily Sam Ervin Jr. of North Carolina, who was chairman of the Senate Select Committee; the minority counsel, Fred Thompson, who parlayed his fame into a career as an actor and is now a senator himself, and the Washington Post reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, to name but a few.

Nor is this to say that the press coverage back then did not have its hysterical aspect, especially once the mo-mentum for impeachment began building. There was, however, an aura of solemnity, even an occasional glint of dignity, during the Judiciary Committee's deliberations in 1974 that carried over into many precincts of the press.

This time around, calm detachment is

in short supply. Frenzied engagement is more like it. And this time around there is a whole army of scandal-generated telebrities, including lawyers and pundits who pitch their tents wherever there Is a camera and microphone, which ese days is everywhere.

T Partly, of course, the difference beween then and now is the difference between the nature of the alleged offenses: hanky-panky with the constitution versus hanky-panky with an intern. The very salaciousness of the current scandal certainly contributes to its aura of farce. Still, one suspects that even if the issue at stake were more serious - say, an investigation of campaign finance abuses — it almost certainly would be recast as melodramatic

entertainment or it would be ignored. The Lewinsky scandal and the constitutional crisis it has created may seem both larger and more trivial than-

NEW YORK — Last week a phalanx. Watergate because the details are of witnesses paraded before the flogged in so many places. Entire tele-House Judiciary Committee to delineate vision networks are devoted to "cov-

The only way to fill the artime has been with an endless stream of interpreters, whether the exegetes who teased significance out of the most they themselves seemed to represent mandane matters or Talmudic scholars another difference, this one cultural. of the Stan report who parsed each word of it - and have done so for hours, weeks, even months on end. Hence Geraldo Rivera; Alan Dershowitz and others, often paired off, harling words at one another like bricks, night after night after night. Mr. Woodward and Mr. Bernstein are around for historical

But to attribute the impeachment blockbuster to the proliferation of media begs the question of why they prolif-erated in the first place. Since Watergate there has been an evolutionary change

in our consciousness.

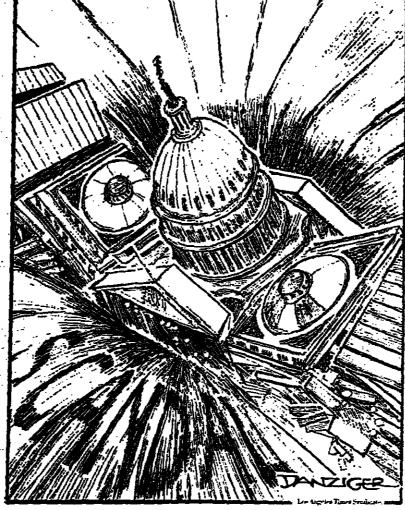
After decades of steady inundation, we have come to think of nearly everything as entertainment, and we demand more outlets for it. The O. J. Simpson trial and the Lewinsky scandal are big entertainment with two tremendous advantages over conventional entertainments: suspense and built-in plausibility.

All of this makes for a marvelous ymbiosis. Viewers think of these blockbuster news stories as entertainment, the cable networks think of them as inexpensive programming, and the talking heads seem to think of them as vehicles for their own celebrity. This last factor is the only way to ex-plain why lawyers and pundits allow themselves to be recycled from the Simpson case to the Lewinsky affair.

Sports have their famous color com-

mentators. Now every scandal has its color commentators. The difference is that sports commentators never go down onto the playing field and join the action. Pundits in the Lewinsky scandal have exercised no such restraint.

The expert witnesses who testified last week included several regulars on the all-Lewinsky circuit, such as the former Watergate prosecutor Richard Ben-Veitiste, plus others who have provided op-ed pieces about the case. One, the Yale law professor Bruce Ackerman, had an article published on the New York Times op-ed page (IHT, Dec. 9) the same day he appeared before the Judiciary Committee. There are others who appear before the cameras, then testify, then write about it. In fact, since relatively few people are



tuning into the hearings, the babble about them seems to have become the only point, and the commentators themselves have become the main event. Does anyone think the Los Angeles

prosecutor Marcia Clark has anything to share on the impeachment process? Given all this, it may be that the legacy of Watergate was not merely the political precedents it created, but "All the President's Men." It was "All the President's Men" — the movie, perhaps, even more than the book - that reconfigured a political crisis into a thrilling noirish narrative with a beginning, a middle and an end and a Manichaean drama with heroes and villains. It was "All the President's Men" that brought the media directly into the narrative, establishing the pattern for the scandals to follow.

The Lewinskyites have taken the idea and run with it. Those who are not interpreting the action or testifying about it can be actively involved in it, breathlessly delivering scoops and stoking the fire, presumably awaiting certified stardom in the movie version. Indeed Michael Isikoff, the reporter for Newsweek, spent so much time on television that he could not stake out Ms. Lewinsky's apartment for fear of being recognized.

Now, of course, everyone seems to be part of the show, which is always the case when celebrity beckons: grandstanding congressmen and former congressmen, prosecutors, defense autorneys, witnesses, reporters, secretaries as well as those pundits. One attractive counsel for the Judiciary Committee has even received fan mail from viewers who caught a glimpse of her sitting behind Representative John Conyers.

This, in a nutshell, is what may finally distinguish Watergate from the current impeachment spectacle. While the former manifested divisions in our political culture, the latter manifests not only those divisions but also and celebrity.

It has been a terrific show, and we are certainly going to miss it when it closes, even if its audience is thinning out. How else are we going to fill those 28-hour days?

Neal Gabler is the author of "Life the Movie: How Entertainment Conquered Reality." He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

Is the Ultimate in Equality The Unisex Bathroom?

By Ellen Goodman

unisex toilet issue, without even

Back then, the conservative activist Phyllis Schlafly was racing about the country warning the good women of America that if we ever passed the Equal Rights Amendment, we would lose the right to separate bathrooms. The message was that no decent,

self-respecting woman would want **MEANWHILE**

the corner office if it meant giving up the ladies' room.

This was, of course, a bizarre argument, since privacy and equality can coexist quite nicely, thank you. But the two-toilet issue, as it came to be known, cast a comic shadow over the equal rights debate until the amendment was flushed down the drain.

Fast-forward now to the mid-1990s. It turns out that anatomy was destiny after all, though not quite in the way Ms. Schlafly imagined. During a San Diego rock concert, when the line to the ladies' room grew to bladder-challenging lengths, a group of desperate women liberated the men's room.

This was not, mind you, a "girl power" event. It was a Billy Joel and Elton John concert and when the women invaded, the horrified man at the urinal must have had Billy Joel lyrics of "Shameless" ringing in his ears: "And I'm standing here for all the world to see."

In any case, Bob Glaser decided to sue the city, saying that his civil rights and right to privacy were violated when he was unable to relieve himself in front of the women. The experience left him "angered, upset, embar-rassed, distraught and violated."

He sued the city for \$5.4 million for not protecting him from this traumatic event, and he sued the beer vendor providing the beer that forced him to the men's room that produced the humiliation that ... you get the idea. This case, dubbed "pottygate,"

was eventually thrown out of court as "frivolous." Moreover, one court ruled that Mr. Glaser would have to pay the legal costs of the folks he sued. He appealed this all the way to the Supreme Court.
On Dec. 7, that coed law/rock

group known as the Supremes let the lower court decision stand. Frivolous it is. But in agreeing that toilet in-

BOSTON — It has been 20-odd vasion is un-suitworthy, the Su-years since I first barged in on the premes have moved us even closer to acceptance of the unisex toilet.

As someone who owns a unisex, duo-sex, whatever, bathroom, it never occurred to me to sue for humiliation. Having encountered a raised seat in the middle of the night, I have considered suing for bodily injury. But it is hard to sue a husband.

Nevertheless, the cutting edge of social change now seems to be the gender-neutral john. It is not only rampant in coed dorms, but it is also the signature feature of the Ally Mc-Beal law firm where the post-feminist generation of TV women has won the right to wear very short skirts and check out the shoes in the next stall.

Moreover, in real life, the chief executive of Yarde Metals of Connecticut has become famous lately for his plan to install a unisex toilet with six stalls (no urinals) and a shared sink area in his new office.

"I really believe that everyone who works here is equal and should be treated that way, Craig Yarde said. "It started off as a little bit of a joke, but we think it sends a message that we're all in this together." In what together?

The notion is that, somehow or other, important corporate bonding and information sharing are taking place around the sink. The bathroom is the locker room, the golf course, the water cooler and the club of the late 1990s. Even the john is corporate space.

This is what we have come to. We did not get the Equal Rights Amendment but we got the unisex toilet. We did not break the glass ceiling, we broke down the bathroom walls. In Ally McBeal's office, the senior partners are men but the women get a gender-neutral john. At Yarde, the door to equal opportunity has many stalls.

I am all in favor of unisex bathrooms built for one. I applaud anything that will shorten the line at the ladies' room. But I remain unalterably opposed to the idea that we have to go together to get there together. Mr. Glaser may be a frivolous

man. But just wait till the next Billy Joel concert. Remember the lyrics from "An Innocent Man"? "Some people stay far away from the door/ if there's a

chance of it opening up.' You bet they do. The Boston Globe.

A Cultural Divide Over Impeachment

TEW YORK — Would the Founding Fathers, who in the charter of American nationhood solemnly pledged to one another their sacred bonor, have regarded lying under oath by a president as a high crime or misdemeanor? That question faces the full House now that articles of

foible—even if, in a subsequent seizure of shame or cunning, he committed persury to conceal a peccadillo? That is the Democratic position, even though Democrats have used language at least as strong as the Republicans' to condemn President Bill Clinton's conduct.

By and large, the two sides agree on By and large, the two sides agree on the facts. The problem is that they have irreconcilable differences about approunbecoming a president.

belong as much to the groups to which the members adhere as to the voice within each of them.

To the debate in the full House, two sections will become even more

apparent. These are, first, the deep culimal divide across which the two halves of a sundered generation are speaking to each other and the nation, and, second, the striking analogies between the Clinton case and the Nixon case.

tion case and the Nixon case.

The cultural divide has been starkly revealed by the television camera. On the left, for example, there was Representative Barney Frank of Massachusetts, tousled, rumpled, brilliant, angry, setts, tousled, rumpled, brilliant, angry, rolls that seem to engage an analogies between the Canada and the Constitution devotes to impeachment provides a measuring suck. Dothe allegations have to leap over own, collective as much as individual, that will not permit them to impeach on the charges against their president.

Mr. Clinton's hopes for a last-minute reprieve from impeachment rest with research to engage the constitution of the con setts, tousled, rumpled, brilliant, angry, gib. And on the right, Representative all McColum of Florida, a straight arrow, every hair in place, tie unspotted by pizza sauce, smart, cool as iced tea,

when Mr. McCollum referred last the responsibility.

When Mr. McCollum referred last the responsibility.

As to Watergate, it is clearly the long, he said, "A' jury would be hard-pressed not to convict under these cir
Outrageous though it may have been the calculations.

Charles McCarry, author of "Lucky Bastard," contributed this comment to The New York Times.

By Charles McCarry

cumstances." On the other side, an impassioned Maxine Waters, Democrat of California, cried, "We cannot trust an investigation in which these tactics have been used!" He accepted the integrity of the system as a habit of mind, and for impeachment have been put before it. It is, of course, a Republican question, and illerefore a prosecutorial one.

Or can it be taken on faith that the authors of the U.S. Constitution could propossibly have contemplated the impeachment of a president for a human follole—even if, in a subsequent seizure in the fudiciary Committee's producing the full clark of the integrity of the same reason she had the most profound doubts about it — not least, one supposes, because it is run, for the moment, by people like Mr. McCollum.

The straight arrow Republicans believe, and have said over and over again during the Iudiciary Committee's pro-

during the Judiciary Committee's proceedings, that words have commonsense meanings. The more ardent Democrats think that words have hidden definitions, that new and better meanings can be assigned to them at will and that this will lead to a better world.

This drives the straight arrows crazy, and if any one thing is the keystone of the impeachment, it is the president's priate punishment for acts that Republicans regard as criminal but Democrats use of American English to mislead and confuse and excuse his selfish and puerile behavior.

inhecoming a president.

A certain amount of semantic games in an objective density of evasion in the argument. But these are core convictions — what used to be called matters of conscience — that belong as much to the groups to which straight arrows see it, the operation was

polity and the law.

The best example of this counterspeak to come out of the hearings is the phrase "does not rise to the level of an impeachable offense." To straight-arrow ears it is meaningless — nothing in the 186 words that the constitution devotes

many polls that seem to suggest an indulgent community standard, they are not certain. Clinging to the phrase as if to a scrap of wreckage in a heaving sea, they ask the Founding Fathers to take to the continuous forms of personal conscience have undone his calculations.

to Republicans, the suggestion by the Reverend Robert Drinan, a former Democratic congressman, in his testimony last week that revenge is a factor in their attitudes contains a grain of truth. If it did not, the Republicans who saw their president vilified and deposed after he had been re-elected by the largest majority in history would be less than human.

Though few would argue that Richard Nixon's crimes did not merit impeachment, the 1974 process that the Democrats remember as so judicious may not be remembered in quite the same way by the other side. It was, after all, the Democrats who created the machinery and established the precedent for the removal of a president from office by demunciation, and few of them worried about nullifying Mr. Nixon's landslide.

Watergate, too, began with a stupid crime that was assumed at the outset of an exhaustive investigation to be beneath the dignity of the presidency. Mr. Nixon infuriated his enemies by adamantly refusing to incriminate himself. His subordinates, out of loyalty or ignorance, carried out actions that con-tributed to the president's criminal designs. Mr. Nixon relied, antil almost the last moment, on the belief that he would be saved from impeachment by the votes of Southern Democrats.

When the facts came out at last, many intended to falsify reality and pollute the Republicans on the House Indiciary committee ceased to argue in President Nixon's behalf and voted to impeach him. He resigned because he knew that Republicans in the full House would do the same.

Today there has been no such break in Democratic ranks. These Democrats have a particular conscience of their own, collective as much as individual,

wavering members of the opposition. But he may find at the last hour that

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On Impeachment

expressed wishes of their interest of their country, and above deceasy.

House Indiciary Committee hensible" acts? When morhave raised their political ality is essentially what is at
housession to such a level that issue, there cannot help but be

Perugia, In they place it above the clearly a deep and painful division. RICHARD SECRIST.

Interlaken, Switzerland.

London. most effective U.S. presi- when asked. dents in history, would not Unfortunately, Mr. Clinton it was designed to do. Why does there seem to be even be puritanism, just big-continues to dodge account-a consensus, even among Bill ored revanchism. If America ability by distancing himself

Clinton's advocates and the wants to keep the leadership from Washington. This is a president himself, that he of the Western world, it can-sign of an arrogant offender, zir The Republicans on the committed "morally repre- not kick a president out of not a remorseful leader. GIORGIO IRACL Perugia, Italy.

The president and his legal

early on to mitigate the Impeaching Mr. Clinton, proceedings had they faced ove decency.

Impeaching Mr. Clinton, proceedings had they faced considered to be one of the facts and come clean most effective U.S. processing the facts and come clean most effective U.S. processi

not intend that every matter of .dream team had the chance major interest be resolved by plebiscite, but by intense public debate in the House and Senate. Let's give Congress credit for doing exactly what

The Founding Fathers did

DAVID TIMMINS. Geneva.

London.

At Campus for Eastern Brass, Basic Training in Democracy and English

By Dana Priest Washington Post Service

GARMISCH, Germany - A former prisonerof-war camp once run by the U.S. Army beneath the snow-dusted Bavarian Alps has become the intellectual center for the inconspicuous revolution taking place inside the militaries of East-

With English language labs, workshops on how to use the Internet and discussion groups on the benefits of democratic regimes, the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies may be doing as much to shape Europe's future as any academic center on the Continent.

The United States spends more than \$25 million a year to create an Ivy League atmosphere in which both the old guard and the new feel the freedom to entertain the notion that their militaries should be much smaller, smarter and more itaries should be much smaller, smarter and more loyal to elected civilian leaders.

One day this fall, most of the 80 colonels, generals and foreign ministry officials attending lecture listened to simultaneous translation from English into Russian, reflecting the high percentage of students from former Soviet re-

Rob de Wijk, a defense planner for the Dutch Defense Ministry, contended from the podium that NATO should be considered an alliance of adult democracies as much as of willing militaries. "The big problem is mind-set," Mr. de Wijk said during a break.

"It's very, very difficult to really change the

about pressures to politicize their armed forces. A Bulgarian Foreign Ministry official ruminated on the slow pace of reform in his country. A Latvian officer hovered nearby, listening in-

"We don't want to provide them with the tools but with the ideas of democracy," said Robert Kennedy, the center's director.

The Garmisch center has attracted more than 3,800 foreign officers, parliamentarians and ministry officials for conferences and monthslong courses. Some have parlayed the prestige and connections gained here into promotions back home. There are enough of these rising stars

to spot the outlines of a new Western-trained

David Tevzadze of Georgia and Johannes Kert of Estonina were both promoted repeatedly after attending the center and now are ministers of defense. Colonel Zvonko Stojanovski has become Macedonia's air force chief of staff. Four alumni — from Armenia, Bosnia, Macedonia and Azerbaijan - have gone on to become their countries' military attachés in Washington. Eighteen former students have been assigned to the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. After Lieutenant Colonel Halit Daci was purged for his political beliefs from the Albanian Defense Ministry, he started a national security research organization. Four other alumni are members.

For all its elaborate policy aims, the Garmisch center's first step is to encourage men used to thinking about war plans and killing techniques to master basic English and signing onto the

The curriculum reflects some of the emphasis of U.S. instruction across the region, where the U.S. Defense Department has opened 88 language labs in military facilities in 22 countries, with 49 more labs on the way.

Also, hundreds of East European officers go to the United States each year for English

"It may sound funny," said Ambassador, Vladimir Philipou, foreign affairs secretary to the president of Bulgaria, "but language training, that is what you need."

30 Kosovars Killed in Clash Near Albania, **Serbs Report**

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Yugoslav Army troops killed at least 30 armed ethnic Albanians and wounded 12 others in a border clash Monday in Kosovo, the

Serbian Media Center reported. The Albanians' Kosovo Information Center also reported casualties from the early-morning clash but did not immediately say how many were killed or wounded. It said heavy detonations were heard from three villages that had been

sealed off by the police.

The report of 30 deaths in the fivehour clash was the greatest number of casualties in one encounter since an Oct. 12 peace agreement halted fighting in the separatist province in southern Ser-

Ethnic Albanian rebels have frequently armed themselves in neighboring Albania.

The clash came as a U.S. envoy for Kosovo renewed talks Monday with the province's ethnic Albanian negotiators. Christopher Hill, whose proposals for a political settlement for Kosovo have been rejected by both sides, met with negotiators in the provincial capital of Pristina. He planned to travel to Bel-grade on Tuesday for talks with Serbian

Efforts to forge a political settlement that would bring a lasting peace to the province in Serbia, the dominant republic in Yugoslavia, are stalled. Many fear full-scale fighting will resume in the pluses for the Social Security system. next few weeks or months unless there is a breakthrough in negotiations.

Ethnic Albanians insist on a political plan that would enable them to break free of Serbian rule, while Serbia refuses to give up the province.

a group of armed ethnic Albanians was A.M. Monday near Gorozup and Liken, self — have waned in recent weeks as a 70 kilometers (45 miles) southwest of

Yugoslav Army guards confiscated arms and other material that the Koso- mands from other agencies, adminisvars were trying to smuggle in, accord- tration and defense officials said. ing to the report, which could not be

independently confirmed.

Municipal authorities in nearby
Prizren were quoted as saying that all those killed and wounded were wearing camouflage uniforms with the insignia of the Kosovo Liberation Army. Eight Albanians were killed in a border clash near the same area on Dec. 3.

Hundreds of people have been killed and some 300,000 were left homeless after President Slobodan Milosevic launched a crackdown against the sep-

aratists in February. Meanwhile, a delegation of Kosovo's Serbs arrived in Pristina on Monday to plead with international peace monitors to find relatives who disappeared five months ago. About 50 Serbs met with Gabriel Keller, deputy head of the 2,000member peace mission led by the Or- scholarly expertise. ganization for Security and Cooperation

in Europe.

In another development, the secondin Belgrade and two other embassy employees were killed Monday in a car accident in Kosovo. French officials said Gerard Fauveau, the embassy's first counselor, was among those killed when his car collided with a passenger bus in Besinje, just north of Pristina.



U.S. troops, members of the NATO-led peacekeeping force, patrolling an area near the disputed Bosnian town of Brcko on Monday at the start of a five-day exercise in maintaining security by the multinational units.

Pentagon Sees a Fight for More Funds

By Steven Lee Myers New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has asked President Bill Clinton for the largest increase in military spending since the first four years of Ronald Reagan's Cold War buildup, but the administration has balked at the size of the request, having the White House slated for Monday. already pledged to preserve budget sur-

After years of dwindling resources following the collapse of the Soviet Union, Defense Department officials express hopes that Mr. Clinton will propose the

But their hopes for a large increase in speaking on the condition of anonymity. scrambles to find ways to support Social Security and balance competing de-

come so acute that William Cohen, the \$25 billion a year. secretary of defense, and General Henry Shelton, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, delayed their departures for separate trips to Europe this week. Instead, they stayed in Washington to press their case in pivotal budget meetings at "We need to fight for our money," a

defense official said Sunday. In a meeting with Mr. Clinton last week, Mr. Cohen, General Shelton and the chiefs of the army, navy, air force and Marines argued for at least a \$10 billion Pentagon's first real increase in military increase in spending in next year's that even in a perfect world they w spending since 1991, when the military budget and a \$112 billion increase over get every penny they're asking for. The Serbian Media Center report said budget spiked slightly for the Gulf War. the next six years, the officials said,

budget, the largest annual increase since amount they have calculated as nec-1984. Between now and 2006, the an-essary to keep the nation's military fit.

The Pentagon's concerns have be- nual increases would grow steadily to

But Mr. Cohen and the chiefs left that meeting without a firm pledge for any increase. And while Mr. Clinton expressed support in principle for addressing problems with the military's readiness, the officials said it now seemed unlikely that the president would propose more than a modest increase, if any, when he unveils his budget proposal in

February for the 2000 fiscal year. "I think there is a lot of sympathy for their needs over there," an adminis-tration official said. "But I don't think that even in a perfect world they would

The wrangling has created a political problem for Mr. Clinton, who already Albania when the shootout erupted at 2 couraging words from Mr. Clinton him- everything from spare parts to raises for licans in Congress to increase military the troops to the peacekeeping mission spending. After inviting Mr. Cohen and White House battling impeachment also in Bosnia — would represent a roughly 4 the chiefs to submit requests for more percent increase above the Department money, Mr. Clinton will now face critof Defense's current \$258 billion icism for giving anything less than the

ALLIES: Pentagon Is Building Many Ties

They think it will

Germany. I think

What we're doing

is very difficult

and improbable,

but doing nothing

guarantees failure.'

be like post-'45

they are dead

wrong.'

Continued from Page 1

"Against all of their historical experience," he added, "against all the times they have sought to be with the have these hopes.'

Many current and former U.S. officials share this view

"I don't know of any historical precedent or any other country doing this in this way," said William Perry, who was a guiding force behind the military outreach as secretary of defense during the first Clinton administration. "There are large risks of failure. What we're doing

is very difficult and improbable, but doing nothing guarantees failure." Critics see a host of other risks in the U.S. approach. They fear the admin-istration is extending security commitments to an unstable region without public debate. Some argue that the effort distracts the military from its central mission of being prepared to fight wars. Others question whether the reorganization — which includes big increases in U.S. weapons transfers — is encouraging

a costly and destabilizing arms race. Some Russia experts say that Moscow, already skittish about expansion of NATO, may react negatively to an even larger American shadow.

American officials "dangerously misread Russia," said Stephen Blank, a professor at the

Strategic Studies Institute at the U.S. mostly underfunded and under-Army War College. "They think it will manned," said Andrew Nichols Pratt, a be like post-'45 Germany. I think they are dead wrong."

"We are expanding our sphere of influence at the expense of the Rus-

"Peacetime engagement," as the Pentagon calls it, has become a central has the ability to move around and we mission of the U.S. military since the end have the resources." of the Cold War at the start of the decade. American special operations forces bave reached out to the militaries of at least. 110 countries, including every country commissioned officer corps academy in in Latin America, through exercises and Kannas, Lithnania --- a campus modeled military leaders now routinely visit a Lithuanian Army major. Kesturis Kur-

cally insignificant. But nothing rivals the scope or stakes of the involvement in Central and Eastern Europe. U.S. advisers have conducted top-to-bottom assessments of the armed forces of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Bulgaria and Romania and have written the blueprints for their remodeling. In the Czech Republic, Poland, But earlier this year, a group of prom-inent German historians and writers are revamping command-and-control

puters for a new budgeting and acquisition system. American advisers have drafted military codes of justice and tactical war-fighting doctrine, and have given some forces their first look at sophisticated

special operations equipment. greatest inroads where the transition to and naval facility and on inspections of gr democracy is most advanced, like the companies and platoons. The team's Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, findings have become "our road map," which have been accepted as North Atlantic Treaty Organization members deputy defense minister.

with U.S. sponsorship.
In what officials call a crucial step, for example, Poland is allowing an eight-man U.S. military team to help reshuffle its insular general staff, which has recivilian authorities. The Americans say they will help Poland establish a NATOstyle joint staff tied to an interagency political process like that in the United

In other countries, U.S. involvement has been slowed by lingering suspicion and tradition. In Bulgaria, where a pro-Communist government kept Americans at bay until an electoral upset last year, the U.S. team has had little contact with Bulgarian officers and few Bulgarians have been promoted on their return from U.S. training.

Much of the U.S. effort has been carried out under the Partnership for Peace, a NATO program involving 27 nonmembers that is designed to bring militaries up to NATO standards through multilateral exercises and defense restructuring.

The parmership program is also a nonaggression pact and includes the right of members to request high-level NATO consultations in times of crisis. While European militaries also play a role in the program, its agenda and budget are dominated by Americans.

But the enterprising character of U.S. engagement is best captured by a littleknown initiative called the Joint Contact Team Program. The program is run by the U.S. European Command, based in Stuttgart, with no direct involvement by

On an annual budget of \$20 million —

less than the price of an average F-16 fighter jet — the program assigns four or five-member teams to work in the defense ministries or general staff of-fices of 13 countries. The teams arrange West and not been protected by the exchanges that this year have brought west, they still look to the West. They the region to teach and train 100,000 troops, according to the European Com-mand. Some 1,400 Eastern European officers have traveled to the Unit States or to U.S. bases in Europe for

classroom training and seminars.

The program has had an entrepreneurial flair since its start in 1992, where General Colin Powell, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, sent a team to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, sent a team to the start through the start thr advise Hungary on everything from ordering uniforms to establishing a unif

itary legal system. As protection from the cumbersom and political Pentagon budgeting pro-cess, the program was initially paid for from a discretionary fund held by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

To work within congressional pro-hibitions on training foreign troops, the visits by U.S. military experts are called "exchanges" and the experts are called "contact teams" rather than trainers.

Some analysis say that the program is a example of how the Pentagon is eclipsing the State Department as the most visible agent of

U.S. foreign policy "The State Department has become a very small organization,

professor at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Germany and a former Marine Corps colonel. "Engagement is easier for the military. We have the infrastructure and the educational programs. The military.

Where the U.S. military's influence has taken hold, the impact can be pervasive.

On the grassy hills outside a noncountries in Africa and Asia that were selis, recently watched as a platoon of_ once off-limits or considered strategi- recruits moved toward a mock enemy

ed the job

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"The camouflage, that's American".
The way they wear their gear, that's American," whispered Major Kurselis, v. commander of the academy. "All these maneuvers and patrol techniques we learned from the Americans. For two years we've concentrated on small-unit tactics."

What Major Kurselis is doing with his young noncommissioned officers is pre-cisely what a team of high-level Pen-In 15 countries, American officers tagon officials recommended for

Lithuania, which had few machine guns and not a single tank or com-no bat aircraft when it rejo gained its independence 1: at the end of the Cold

During an assessment, this year of the Lithuanian Army, Many jor General Henry II.

Kievenaar Jr. of the U.S. Army sent and American officials have made the American team to every active an base

Lithuania hopes to be admitted state to NATO while trying to preserve its a good relations with Russia. To show itsns commitment, it has increased defense spending by 50 percent in the last year, to sisted transferring control over troops to \$153 million. Lithuania's Parliament

has pledged further increases. 1 to A seven-member U.S. team was often the ground in Vilnius, the capital, fourth months before the last Russian troops left in 1993. Today, four U.S. officers work out of the stone national guarded headquarters. Inside a small suite of other fices are computers, a bookcase of U.S., Army field manuals, maps and texts of the last fixes. U.S. military procedures. In the last five years, the teams have organized 430 exchanges, including combat training. and have played host to special operation ations units that have come to teach at Lithuanians long-range recomaissance and hiding techniques.

By reinforcing the position of national militaries as the dominant institutions in many countries, some critics said, the United States may actually be retarding the emergence of strong democratic in stitutions.

"It's a diversion from the important goal of stabilizing societies and economies in the region, "said Daniel Plesch".

director of the British American Se curity Information Council, an independent research and advocacy organization. "And it really provides unnoticed and massive extended madia date for American security commit-

These countries may not be in NATO but, all the way out to Kazakhija stan, they see themselves related to the U.S. military."

slaughters in regional flashpoints. He said Ever since the idea was conceived the project would be debated in the Ger-

Continued from Page 1

man Parliament and that a final decision should be reached by next summer. "We want this to be a living me-

morial, not a ritualistic monument, that provides a clear and visible link between the past, the present and the future," Mr. Naumann said in an interview. "There will be global collaboration in this experience, with places like Yad Vashem in Israel and the Washington Holocaust museum sharing data, exhibits and

Mr. Schroeder has expressed his full backing for the project and says he shares the belief that a Holocaust meranking diplomat at the French Embassy morial for "the Berlin Republic" should teach generations of young Germans about the scale of Nazi atrocities and the risk of future genocides.

percent of them could not answer the sented to reduce its proportions.

question, "What was Auschwitz-Birkenau?"

MEMORIAL: Schroeder Picks 'Interactive' Holocaust Project

nearly a decade ago, the proposed concution on a vast building site at the epicenter of Hitler's Third Reich has provoked heated arguments among politicians, intellectuals and the 100,000

Jews residing in Germany. A succession of architectural designs have been dismissed as too abstract or frivolous. One suggestion proposed a large Ferris wheel equipped with 16 revolving freight cars similar to those that transported Jews to the death camps, a concept described by the artist as the 'tension between hope and hopeless-

ness, between a carnival and genocide."

The winning entry called for a blocklong slab of tilted concrete inscribed with the names of several million Holo-

They also questioned why other victims of Nazi crimes, including Gypsies and homosexuals, were not honored.

sonal memory of World War II has raised concerns at home and abroad that a new generation of political leadership would try to draw a line under history and strive to be treated as other "normal" Europeans without any special

September election, Mr. Naumann has traveled extensively, soliciting cooperation from other countries and seeking to persuade them that Germany's new goverament of Social Democrats and Greens had no intention of disavowing their obligations to remember the past.

urged the government to abandon the systems. project because it failed to meet the struction of a Holocaust memorial to original standard of creating a place for and European allies honor Jewish victims of Nazi perse"quiet mourning and remembrance, of have installed comwarning or enlightenment.

Mr. Schroeder's ascendancy as the first German leader without any per-

debt incurred by the Nazi legacy. Since Mr. Schroeder's victory in the

That concern was underscored by a caust victims, but Mr. Kohl exercised his recent survey of German teenagers by veto and chose the labyrinth of pillars the Forsa polling institute that found 31 after Mr. Eisenmann and Mr. Serra con-

Continued from Page 1

on in Brussels?" But he also surmised that the Swiss exception is in its twilight: fessor at the University of Bern. "I don't know if we can go on like this much longer," he said.

'Being Swiss doesn't mean what it used to mean. My kids don't know what nation of its actions during the war. it means. They shock me sometimes. They think of themselves as Euro-Mr. Moser's pride of place and his misgivings are widely shared in Switzer-

land. The Swiss may be taking a waitand-see attitude toward the euro, but Area — a single-market zone linking the there is a dawning sense of inevitability that their future may have to lie in a web of closer attachments to their neighbors. The price of their solitude, which served them so well during World War II Hazan, author of the unsparing new and then the Cold War, has lately been

Jews who lost their lives in German gas The myth of wartime Swiss neutrality was exposed as just that, but the scandal was not just a history lesson. It opened being observed in Switzerland with ap-Swiss eyes to their contemporary iso- parent confidence, at least in the short lation. By joining the pile-on over Nazi term.

gold, many Swiss say, their European

steep. It was driven home like a dagger

with the serial revelations of Swiss

SWISS: A Wary Eye Is Being Kept on the Neighbors' Introduction of a Common Currency learned what it means to be on their own," said Walter Kaelin, a law pro-

Little in recent years has unified this trilingual, highly decentralized country as thoroughly as the world's condem-

In Vienna on Friday, the Swiss completed four-year negotiations on a bilateral trade deal with the European Union that might have been unnecessary had Swiss voters not rejected an offer of membership in the European Economic EU with the rest of Western Europe - in

"They're no longer equal partners with their neighbors," said Pierre book "Le Mal Suisse" (roughly, "The Swiss Problem"), in an interview. "What can the Swiss offer" at the nebanks' profiting from the accounts of gotiating table? Not much, any more.

"The future of Switzerland is being decided outside this country," he said. The coming of the euro next month as the official currency of 11 countries is

If the euro is strong and stable, 9wiss

Sixty percent of Swiss exports go to Europe and 80 percent of its imports come from Europe. Because Swiss banks have always been a haven for foreign

A more ominous scenario would be a euro that founders, possibly because the shakier economies and more indebted governments of Europe cannot sustain it.

If the euro becomes weaker, analysts and officials here say, that would drive currency traders to the Swiss franc not a bad thing for Swiss banks - but exports would become prohibitively expensive to the country's major customers. Swiss industry and work force as would Switzerland's rock-bottom inwould suffer. A devaluation of the Swiss

franc might ensue. On the horizon in the first decade of the 21st century are a succession of new referendums that could force the issue of Swiss integration into Europe. Swiss leaders have favored it for years. Despite change his mind - if the euro works and setbacks in referendums, the government continues to tout the idea in glossy more decentralized. pamphlets so enthusiastic they might have

been produced by the European Union. The best-known critic of just about every entangling alliance is Christoph

neighbors abandoned them. "The Swiss businesses expect to benefit from the Blocher, a nationalist businessman who resulting economic health of Europe. runs a chemical empire with factories from Taiwan to South Carolina. 'If we join Europe, our interest rates

will rise 2 percent, and that would raise housing costs by 30 percent," he said in assets, dealing with 10 fewer currencies an interview. may not be a difficult transition. EU membership would instantly make Switzerland one of its wealthiest members, imposing a significant burden

of as much as 4 billion Swiss francs (\$3

billion) a year in payments to the EU for redistribution to have-not members. That, Mr. Blocher said, would raise Swiss taxes — low by European standards - by 15 percent. He predicted that the unemployment rate, at 3.6 percent the second-lowest in Europe, would rise,

"It's important that a small country like Switzerland can determine its own fate rather than let a huge bureaucracy do it," Mr. Blocher said. Yet he said that he might eventually

the European system becomes much

If Switzerland's most ardent European rejectionist is willing to leave the door ajar, then the Swiss may be closer to NATO. walking through it than they realize.

عكذا من الأصل

A King of Haute Couture Feathers Reigns Supreme

Andre Lemarie: I tell the young people that they are working for their future rather than mine.



Yves Saint Laurent's lion's mane coat of cock, pheasant and vulture feathers.





Thierry Mugler's turkey feather coat printed to look like the markings of fur.



agle feathers created a dramatic headdress at McQueen's autumn couture show for Givenchy.

ers and flowers, under the manager Bruno

Lemarie says. An elegant midnight blue bolero in ostrich treated with glycerin, for



Hanae Mori's wedding dress trimmed with turkey feathers coated with mother-of-pearl.

Andre Lemarie Is the Last of the Plumassier Breed

By Suzy Menkes
rezrectional Herald Tribune

white organza.

"Balenciaga was more infimidating,"

"Turkey!" says Andre Lemarie, gobbling
his jowls to emphasize that what looked like
an aureole of snowflakes on a dress on the
an aureole of snowflakes on a dress on the
contine ranway was plucked from the farmyard. Lemarie is the last of a breed: a plumassier or feather-maker, still plying a trade
at goes back to the tribal emblems of ancient
civilizations but is now the ultimate symbol of
feminine frivolity

from 8.20 A.M. to welcome suppliers.

"Balenciaga was more infiniteding,"

Lemarie says. "You walked on tip-toe as
though it were the sacristy, it was a bouse with
ciaga's particular demands for flat-woven
feathers that looked like fabric, and his passion for gazar, a stiff lacquered silk that made
gluing on the feathers especially difficult.

Lemarie is frustrated that he doesn't have
femining frivolity

shop, leaving him the last of the Mohicans — of John Galliano, delivers a vintage flower, an appropriate metaphor since he created for found in the flea market, and requests a Givenchy's fall couture an Amazonian headdress in which Alexander McQueen showed

with the feather cost — in ostrich or marabon — offered by many designers as a dressy evening outlit or even as a casual parka. Plames are also frequently used for trim-ming, (for collars, cuffs and borders on tail-oring or knitwear) where fur was once more familiar. Some feathers are even dyed with animal markings to increase the sense of crossover with fur.

"I will never forget when Yves Saint

Lament said he wanted to make a lion's coar out of feathers," says Lemarie, showing the original sample: russet and gold feathers that look like animum leaves carching the dying sun. Behind huge graffiti-covered doors in an old quarter of Paris is the shabby but grand building where Lemarie's grandmother, the founder of the company, moved nearly 100 years ago. Racks of boxes, stained tobaccobrown with age, are inscribed: "Birds of Paradise," "Prince of Wales," "exotic orchids." Inside are nesting rainbow-colored plumes, ostrich feathers curied into a crescent shapes and life-size blooms with velvet petals. Mak-

and life-size blooms with velvet petals. Mak-Inxuriant artificial flowers is another feather in Lemanie's cap and he turns out Chanel's famous camellias — in silk, cotton, velvet, leather or vinyl — at the rate of 20,000 histod-made flowers a year.
The genial Lemane, 73, with the face of a

country cure and the enthusiasm of a child, calls himself an artisan, but is really an artist. A pheasant-feather body suit at Givenchy, talls himself an artisan, but is really an artist. A pheasant-feather body suit at Givenchy, the contribution to haute countre, like that of pearlized turkey feathers on a Hanse Mori

the embroiderer François Lesage, has marked wedding dress, a white ostrich evening coat the century. Lemane has worked for many of from Saint Laurent, pink ostrich skirts from ARIS — This is the season for fine feathers—and they don't come much feathers—and they don't come much finer than these tiny plumes with quivering tendrils floating on a wisp of from 8.20 A.M. to welcome suppliers.

feminine frivolity.

The same close relationship with today's couturiers, who send their assistants or, in the case

painstaking couture copy for Dior.

McQueen has worked a lot with feathers and artificial flowers or foliage since he became hante couture designer at Givenchy. feathers in all their savage glory.

Such theatrical gestures — like Thierry
Mugler's feathers faking monkey han — contrast with more refined effects, especially for young designers who use feathers insouciantly in sportwear, woven into sweaters, as downy parkas or fluffy skirts.

They often seem like a substitute for fur, which means shipping feathered hats in Amer.

When 21-year-old Lemanie entered the company in 1946, he concentrated on exports, which meant shipping feathered hats to American stores from coast to coast, or supplying Saks Fifth Avenue with feathered headbands, when they were all the rage. Now business in the United States has been reduced to a trickle by the decline of millinery and the complex laws that prohibit, for example, the importation of the speckled pheasant feathers with their intriguing natural markings.

EVERENTLY, Lemarie unwraps the last of his Birds of Paradise, tanned in China in the days of the last emperor, its natural Farvist colors still vibrantly fresh. Other plumes are dyed: a humble pigeon feather turned parrot green and ostrich on stades of pink and purple. They look like something from the Folies Bergeres. but Lemarie bridles at the suggestion that

feathers are for showbiz. Yet feathers do suggest feminine frivolity, hence those accusations about women being feather brained." They seem a most unlikely addition to a modern woman's wardrobe, yet the colorful feather bon has a long history as an accessory for the holiday season. Maybe the fashion revival has come as a challenge to political correctness and to plain and sensible clotheng. Or perhaps plumes correspond to a current desire for something light

but voluminous.

Homage to the Glories of the Peacock

CONDON—The glory of the peacock, the condon constraint of birds, is the subject of an exhibition opening Thursday at a London costume gallery. The emblem of the feather, its decimal and an analysis and its design radiating from the central eye and its magical green, blue and stormy violet colors, is

shown as a print on an antique provencale dress on loan from a museum in Arles, France.

The exhibition pays homage to the famous Peacock Room created by James McNeill Whitehar a manufacture of the contributions. Whistler a century ago. Current contributions

to the central display of the dress include a wig-hat from the Welsh feather magician Dai Rees, slippers from Manolo Blahnik and jewelry by Katherine Clark. She uses motifs from Chinese portelain and from the drawings of Aubrey Beardsley, who made the peacock the height of fin de siècle fashion a century ago. The exhibition, Parure de Plumes, opens Dec. 17 at Judith Clark Costume, 112 Talbot Road, Will, and rous to Feb. 7.

Suzy Menkes

Loulon de la Falaise, who has collaborated with Lemarie on many Saint Laurent projects, including the famous 1990 lion's mane coat. Balmain, a marabou trench from Mugler and a santain, a manabout trench from Mugher and a spectacular patterned sweater from Jean Paul Says that she loves going through the "progaultier are just some of the effects seen on recent runways. Now countriers are knocking at Lemanie's door as they work on the spring/

"I like it when it looks very wild," she says. "I always like working with exotic stuff. ammer shows to be presented next month. But is there really a future for this recherché Monsieur Lemarie is also very sensitive about flowers. We've had poppies, wild roses, velvet roses, straw flowers. He's very faithful. trade? Lemarie employs 26 workers on the Paris premises, where young artisans use century-old handtools to heat and mold the feath-

And so are we."

How does Lemarie himself feel about a Marchini and the creative director Eric Charles Donation, whose nimble fingers are arranging a mosaic of feathers on organza.

"I tell the young people that they are working for their future rather than mine," career that has brought him together with ritzy clients, like Jacqueline de Ribes and Marie Christine of Kent, and into partnership with the great Parisian countriers? His answer is

the measure of the modest man.

"Above all, I feel very proud," he says.

"It's not personal pride, but the idea that I Saint Laurent ready-to-wear, proves that have been able to contribute to the work of feathers can be off-the-rack and commercial. someone who was superior to myself."



Newmark & Company Real Estate, Inc. congratulates

Donna Karan and

Donna Karan International, Inc. on leasing their

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BellSouth Toots Own Horn, Raising Eyebrows

By Seth Schiesel

New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Why is Bell-South Corp. talking up its stock? That question has been percol-BellSouth has become more aggressive in promoting its stock than it has been at any time at least since the pects - unless the company is Bellpassage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

There is nothing necessarily un-toward about a company of Bell-been to avoid the high wire. South's caliber encouraging people to buy its shares or encouraging organization," said a Wall Street exanalysis who work for brokerage houses to raise their estimates for the company of is functionally the same thing...

Stock, after all, is the currency of as \$3 billion worth of its stock.

October at a meeting with investors: New York, Ronald Dykes, Bell-

TOKYO — Japan's government

on Monday priced its sale of Linil-

lion shares in Nippon Telegraph &

Telephone Corp., the world's largest phone company, at 855,000

billion yen to protect depositors of

The price is 3 percent below the 882,000 yen it last traded and falls

short of the 1.2 million yen that

analysts say is the stock's fair value,

based on future earnings calcula-

failed banks.

and analysts in New York. There, South's chief financial officer, did munications Inc., at 11.8 percent. that many analyst estimates for Bell-South's earnings growth were too conservative and encouraged

stronger projections for next year. ating on Wall Street and in the tele- Around the same time, company communications industry all fall. representatives telephoned at least And while the speculation is one reporter to point out how well nowhere near a boil, it is clear that BellSouth's stock was performing.

company loudly promoting its pros-South. Higher expectations only make it easier to fail, and Bell-

"BellSouth is a very conservative ecutive who follows the Atlanta-

Late last month, in a single day, But in an industry where amulti- the company announced three billion-dollar acquisitions have be- moves, each of which could be excome almost commonplaces a company in BellSouth's : see far and did so. It said it would split its nonacquisitive position is bound to shares two for one, raise the dividend raise eyebrows by flogging its shares. by 5.5 percent and buy back as much

most communications deals. In an interview in early December, The brows were set in motion it before another lunch with analysts in

Japan Prices NTT Shares Below Market

government's 60 trillion yen plan to

protect depositors and help banks write off bad loans. The shares will

start trading Tuesday, ahead of be-

ing issued on Friday.

"The shares will rise tomorrow

value, and that they're cheap," said

Yoshihiko Ito, deputy manager of

equity investment at Asahi Mutual Life Insurance Co. "The stock

closed at a surprisingly low price."

NTT shares closed Monday at

882,000 yen, a drop of 4,000.

yen (\$7,358) each, to raise up to 855 because everybody knows their fair

the company's top executives said not disagree that his company had become more aggressive in discussing its stock. But he made it clear that far better than the stocks of any of the cheerleading effort had been under way for more than two months. BellSouth's stock appreciation of

"This started at our annual meet- 55.5 percent through Friday outing in April," he said. "But the guidance didn't take."

It was in April that BellSouth There is nothing unusual about a raised its "guidance" for analysts traditionally reticent as BellSouth, on its expected per-share earnings growth from "low double digits" — or 10 to 12 percent, in finance—grounded in one of the most respeak — to "midteens," which ba—spected telecommunications mansically means 15 percent. But not all agement teams in the nation. the analysts followed its lead by raising their growth estimates, which compare 1998 data with forecasts for 1999.

> As Mr. Dykes told the analysts and investors at the lunch, "It took a growth markets in Latin America. few folks a few quarters to figure out what 'midteens' meant." Eventu-ally, though, all of this "guidance" achieved the desired result.

From Jan. 1 until BellSouth's annual meeting on April 27, its stock gained 12.4 percent. That placed it second behind GTE Corp., at 13.5 percent, among the six local telephone giants in the United States, and just ahead of US West Com-

Of the 1 million shares on offer,

710,000 will be allocated to Japan,

105,000 shares will be sold in the

United States, and 185,000 shares

will go to Europe and elsewhere, the

The government said it expected to gain 835.9 billion yen, after pay-

ing expenses such as a 2.15 percent

commission to the brokerages that

Daiwa Securities Co., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Warburg Dillon

official said at a press briefing.

managed the sale.

But for the entire year so far, Next Week BellSouth's shares have performed the other companies in the segment.

distanced each of the other five by at least 16 percentage points. But talk, even from a company as remains cheap. The strong performance of BellSouth's stock is spected telecommunications man-

That team, led by F. Duane Ackerman, has done a good job of controlling costs and generating new revcame from existing customers, even while investing billions of dollars in:

For all that, though, why does BellSouth's stock merit a multiple of projected 1999 earnings of 27, when the rest of the group is bunched between 20.2 (Bell Atlantic Corp.) and 24.4 (Ameritech Corp).

One reason could be that, unlike four of its brethren. BellSouth is not now betting on the successful execution of a multibillion-dollar merger. The conventional wisdom is that with the industry consolidating all around it, BellSouth cannot continue to go it alone forever.

That remains to be seen. But some

analysts think BellSouth is getting set to use its elevated shares to make a bid for a new long-distance phone company. Those mentioned include IXC Communications Inc. and Williams Communications — now that Williams Companies Inc., the parent of Williams, has agreed to issue a separate stock for the long-distance business. Other analysts, though, say that no BellSouth purchase seems imminent.

In the interview, Mr. Dykes would say only that within the United States. The lead underwriters were acquiring new lines of business aiwa Securities Co., Goldman, seemed preferable to building them. In his presentation at the subsequent hunch, however, he did not shy from

Seoul to List **Phone Firm**

biter and A

SEOUL - South Korea said. Monday it would list state run Korea Telecom on the domestic stock exchange next week, setting the stage for a \$2 billion; stock sale overseas and the purt suit of a strategic partner by the nation's biggest phone comen

Korea Telecom will initially sell 13 percent of its equity to foreigners in the form of de positary receipts, while offerila ing a 15 percent stake to a stra-j tegic partner among foreign

telephone service providers.

With foreign investors dew manding a high premium to lend to South Korea, selling shares in state monopolies is. one of the few ways the gov, erument can raise money to help cushion the effects of mounting unemployment.

The listing, on hold for more, than a year, comes after the benchmark index rose 85 person cent in four months. It will cover er all 287.9 million of Koresis Telecom's shares. lecom's shares.
"We will step up our efforts;

to find a strategic partner, started ing next month," said Ahn Byong Yub, deputy minister of ingg formation and communications of A ministry spokesman, Lean Che Ok, said the government aimed to find a foreign partner, by next June.

The company's American depositary receipts could be floated in the United States in March, the deputy said.

The government owns 71.21, percent of Korea Telecom. It sold 28.8 percent of the comm pany to domestic investors in recent years for prices from 38,000 won (\$31.48) to 47,100

There was global demand for 2.91 tions. The sale was 2.9 times oversubscribed, the government said. million shares, of which 2.74 mil-There was strong demand from flashing the company's wallet. won per share. P.O. Box 35. Ripon. North Yorkshire HG4 4YG, U.K. "We have a lot of cash." he said. The Finance Ministry, whose lion were requested at a 3 percent apanese individuals, who asked for Those shares now trade at "We are underleveraged. And we about 30,000 won per share. stake in NTT will fall to 59 percent discount, said a Finance Ministry 1.66 million shares out of the 2.06 from 65.5 percent, is selling a fourth official who requested customary tranche of shares to help pay the anonymity. million requested in Japan, the ofhave the strongest currency in the (Bloomberg, AFP) **Advertisement** For information please contact, Katy Houri: Fax (33-1) 41 43 92 12 or e-mail: funds@iht.co INTERNATIONAL FUNDS To receive free delly quotations for your funds subscribe at: e-funds@int.com December 14, 1998

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INTERNATIONAL INVESTING

Is Lobster and Foie Gras a Recipe for Insider Trading?

Second by

Jen Ma

only a select group of people at an Arizona resort knew why the disk-drive maker was having its biggest one day gain ever. buy and sell orders, and Most of the company's 3,700 shareholders lars that go with them.

could not explain the sudden spurt that added ton was treating a private party to want lobser these things for brokerages, to get information association of 3,600 investor relations of siles, seared Hudson Valley fole gras, fillet of cont and then to get turbot and roasted rack of Colorado lamb in between a series of closed-door meetings with top officials from more than 140 companies. OThe Credit Suisse First Boston conference offered plenty of opportunities for the firm's clients to trade before the rest of the world learned what executives at the meeting were

At one of these sessions, Charles Haggerty, ss was getting much better. Some of his intimacy creates the widest following for their them to recover. Dell, the best-performing Western Digital's chief executive, said busilisteners, in a room with beige, silk-covered walls, reached for their cell phones and placed orders to buy the stock. Before the day was ofer, Western Digital had jumped 4 13/16 to

Such briefings, attended by invitation only, are routine. During the past several months, executives at Dell Computer Corp., Barnes & Noble Inc., Northern Telecom Ltd. and Tellabs Inc. have provided enough insight in hese private situations to prompt unforeseen price fluctuations, adding or subtracting billions of dollars in market capitalization in less

than a day. -"It sounds like insider trading to me," said Barbara Roper, director of investor protection for the Consumer Federation of America, a nonprofit advocate for about 50 million people. The big players are getting information and getting a chance to trade on that information before it gets out to the rest of the market." And there are big incentives to keep it that way. Securities firms are selling "access," said Michael Holland, who spent much of his 30 years in the investment business working at

NEW YORK — As Western Digital own money management firm. By arranging corp.'s stock surged 37 percent on Dec. 1, exclusive meetings between their preferred control a select group of people at an Arizona customers and chief executives, securities firms have a better chance of receiving more buy and sell orders, and the commission dol-

"They're providing us with information," \$427 million to Western Digital's market said Ion Burnham, chairman of Burnham Asvidue in a few hours. They had not been set Management Corp., who has attended invited to the Phoenician in Scottsdale, where hundreds of these meetings in his 40 years as invited to the Phoenician in Scottsdale, where hundreds of these meetings in his 40 years as holders and 14 percent allow news reporters the investment bank Credit Suisse First Bos a professional investor. "That's the point of on those calls, according to the institute, an approfessional investor."

> commission dollars back for it, and they do it in spades."
> For their part, chief executives are only too willing to give the firms' analysts and selected investors the

first word on marketcompany's stock and helps them put the best

light on their results. Western Digital's Mr. Haggerty did not engage in selective disclosure at the Credit Suisse First Boston conference, said Robert Blair, vice president of investor relations. "Anyone who's called me for the past week has gotten the same information," Mr. Blair

said, soon after Mr. Haggerty spoke. The difference is no one who called Mr. Blair was in the same room, which could seat only 160 people, where Mr. Haggerty told investors the company had whittled its inventory of disk drives, boosted market share and planned to ship products incorporating International Business Machines Corp. technology earlier than expected. Mr. Haggerty declined to comment on his presentation at the

Many of these conferences are annual, inchiding NationsBane Montgomery Securities' six-day meeting on growth stocks at the Ritz in San Francisco every September, and Hambrecht & Quist Group's weeklong computer-industry gathering at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in the same city. The Ham-

ton and Salomon Brothers before forming his brecht & Quist meeting this year drew executives from 320 companies.

While these may be the most overt examples of selective disclosure, the practice is widespread on a subtle level every day.

In a National Investor Relations Institute survey of 227 companies, 99 percent said they invite professional money managers to participate in regular telephone conference calls. Only 29 percent welcome individual shareholders and 14 percent allow news reporters

On July 21, Tom Meredith, Dell Com-The big players are getting puter's chief financial officer, told a select information and getting a group of investors on chance to trade on that a conference call that personal computer information before it gets out prices were still fallto the rest of the market.' ing, even though analysts had expected

> stock in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index in 1996 and 1997, declined 4.4 percent in a couple hours, carving \$3.3 billion out of its market value as big investors sold shares. Individuals who bought Dell shares that day did so unaware of Mr. Meredith's remarks. We do not engage in selective disclosure

on our conference calls or in any other distribution of material corporate information. said T.R. Reid, a spokesman for Dell in Round Rock, Texas. The July 21 call contained no new, important information that should have been disclosed because the company had said in May that PC prices were falling, he said.

Big and small investors alike are not convinced. "It's not fair," said Nicholas Moore,

who follows technology stocks for Jurika & Voyles, a California-based money manager of \$5 billion. By participating in Dell's July conference call, "We would have a very big running start" on an individual investor that day, Mr. Moore said. "Why is that investor disadvantaged to that degree?

Dell's July conference call "is the kind of practice that perpetuates the belief that the little gry doesn't get a fair shake on Wall

Street," said Mr. Roper of the Consumer Federation of America.

For many investors, getting an invitation to join a conference call is an opportunity to make money. "If I hear something that I didn't know that is extraordinarily positive, I'll buy," said Philip Orlando, chief investment officer at Value Line Asset Management Inc. in New York, which manages S6 billion. "If I hear something that is extraordinarily negative, I'll sell. I may pick up a ticket and buy or

sell right there" during a conference call. A study this year by three University of Michigan professors found that during conference calls, stock prices swing more and bigger blocks of shares are traded than when there is no conference call, signs that institutional investors are trading during the briefings. Those investors would not bother listening if the calls only reiterated previously released information, wrote Richard Frankel Marilyn Johnson and Douglas Skinner.

"This evidence implies that conference calls are informative, but that not all investors have equal across to the information in these calls," they wrote.

The top U.S. securities regulator says that kind of imegnal access to information un-dermines the integrity of the market. "As far as I'm concerned, that's cheating, and it's a stain upon our market," the Securities and Exchange Commission chairman, Arthur Levin, said in a Nov. 18 interview. "We're clearly concerned

about it, we're clearly looking for it."

But the SEC has limited legal means to enforce what is essentially an issue of fairness, lawyers say. The courts have held that insider trading occurs only when an analyst or investor who gets inside information gives something to the company executive in return, said John Coffee, a Columbia University Law School professor who specializes in securities

Stock exchanges have regulatory power over listed dampanies, and the exchanges require full and fair disclosure of information that could affect trading. Still, the only sanction stock markets are allowed by the courts is to remove a company from the exchange, Mr.

Very briefly:

 Asia-Pacific equity markets next year will be less unsettled and more lucrative, offering U.S. dollar returns of between 15 percent and 25 percent, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter said in its 999 outlook. Singapore, Thailand, India and Hong Kong are the investment bank's favored markets, while it is neutral on Australia and bearish on the Philippines, South Korea, New Zealand, Indonesia and Taiwan.

· South Africa's Old Mutual Unit Trusts has reallocated responsibilities within the group and plans to recruit more staff after 14 senior executives at its Old Mutual Asset Management unit resigned last week, including the group's managing director, Garth Griffin.

• Fewer Continental European fund managers see European stock markets as undervalued, according to the Merrill ynch Gallup poll for December. The poll showed 16 percent fund managers think European shares are undervalued, compared with 33 percent last month. Funds' cash reserves are back to normal levels after being raised following the global financial turmoil of August and September, Merrill said.

• Japan's corporate bond market has nearly doubled from last year to a record 12.6 trillion yen (\$107.55 billion) and should maintain that pace as companies move away from uncertain bank lending, economists said.

· Lens, a shareholder activist investment fund, agreed to merge with Hermes Pensions Management Ltd., a unit of BT Pension Scheme, Britain's biggest pension fund manager. Lens, based in Portland, Maine, is already linked with Hermes through a joint venture in Britain.

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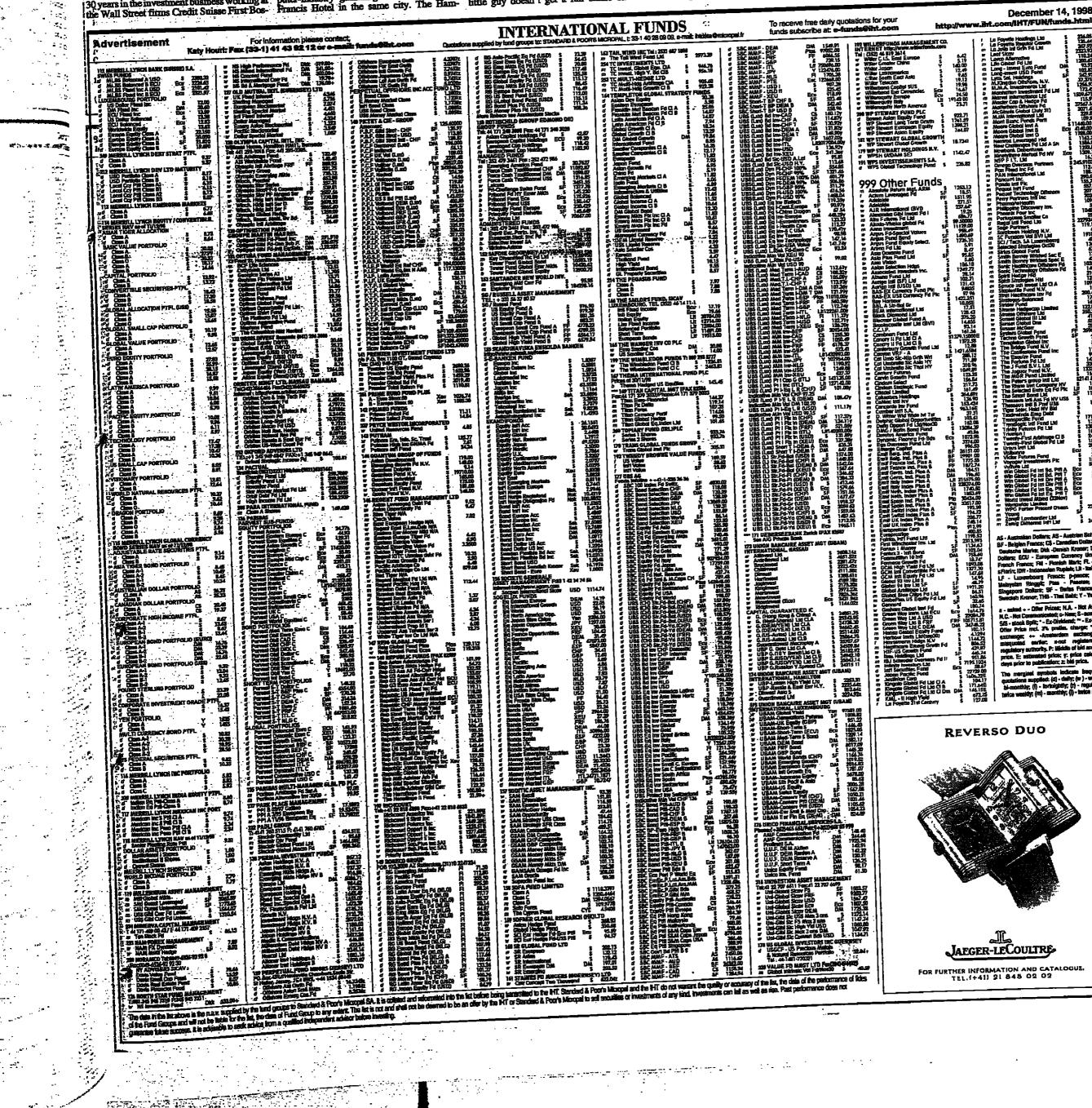
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Its Sights on Trade Boom 'Bold Measures' Readied

To Entice New Investors

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

HANOI - Southeast Asian leaders will announce new moves Wednesday to accelerate trade and investment liberalization in the region, including a twoyear package of incentives to attract investors in an effort to revive growth and

create jobs, officials said Monday.
"A draft statement on "bold mea-sures" prepared for heads of government of ASEAN, the Association of South East Asian Nations, to issue at the end of the summit talks that start Tuesday says each of the nine members of the group has agreed to extend special priv-

ileges to local and foreign investors in the manufacturing sector. The incentives include a minimum three-year corporate income tax exemption or a minimum 30 percent company vestment tax allowance, 100 percent foreign equity ownership, duty-free im-Tits of capital goods, access to the Ginestic market, a minimum industrial

land leasehold period of 30 years, employment of foreign personnel and speedy customs clearance.
"It's like a Christmas sale that will

attract investors to ASEAN," an of-Under these measures, the ASEAN

countries have agreed to conclude a new round of negotiations by 2001 to liberalize trade in all services sectors. Ministers of the major ASEAN econornies were also working to finalize a deal late Monday to bring forward a key tariff-reduction deadline to 2002, from 2003, officials said. The tariff deadline is for carrying out the ASEAN Free Trade Area, a preferential trading arrafigement that will cut duties on most nonagricultural goods traded among members to between zero and 5 percent

of more than 500 million consumers. Another draft summit document called the Hanoi Action Plan spells out Apriod from 1999 to 2004, to promote recovery and greater economic integra-tion among the diverse ASEAN mem-bers: Brunei, Burma, Indonesia, Malayhe Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

creating the nucleus of a single market

The measures include a study on the feasibility of establishing an ASEAN currency and exchange rate system, development of common basic standards for capital markets, drawing up a framework for bond markets in ASEAN by 2000, and closer cooperation to improve

regional infrastructure.

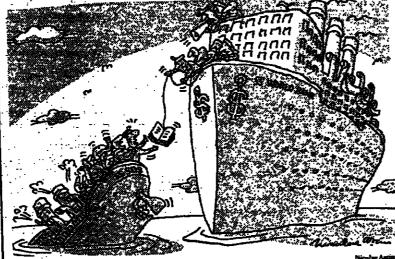
The measures also include a commitment to progressive elimination of restrictions on foreign investment, and the development of "deep and liquid financial markets to employ consuments and cial markets to enable governments and private firms to raise long-term financing in local currency, thereby reducing over dependence on bank finance and limiting

ASEAN investment and trade have slumped sharply because of currency turmeil in the region and the economic slowdown that have pushed the group's leading economies into recession. Bankers and business leaders wel-

coined the market-opening measures, but said they did not go far enough. Kate O'Donogine, regional economist at Barclays Capital in Singapore, said that all ASEAN governments should commit themselves to credible banking reform programs that would include the closure of insolvent institutions, the merger of weak banks with stronger ones and the strengthening of financial regulation. "Bank restructuring and recapitalization is the key to lay and recapitalization is the key to lay of the foundation for a resumption of sistainable long-term growth in the region." she said. "That's going to be quite painful. But if all ASEAN countries did it in one to your real described.

tries did it in one go, you would really see the region benefit." The draft plan says that ASEAN members will coordinate supervision and efforts to strengthen financial systems, but gives no details on how this

ASEAN Sets Thinking Ahead /Commentary



World Bank Gets Real For Aid, It Learns, Money Isn't Everything

By Reginald Dale

WASHINGTON — Are you a national leader with, let us say, unorthodox views, who has recently taken over an impoverished country struggling with serious economic and financial problems? Someone, perhaps, like Yevgeni Primakov, prime minister of Russia, or Hugo Chavez, the newly elected populist president

If so, the World Bank has a new book that would make perfect holiday reading for you. The book is called "Reassessing Aid: What Works, What Doesn't, and Why." It is about the flows of official government aid from

the richest to the poorest countries. But many of its conclusions apply equally well to such countries as Rusna that are negotiating big loans from the International Monetary Fund, and to those such as Venezuela that need to fight poverty by attracting private

Among the most important con-clusions are that financial aid works best if it goes to countries with wellmanaged economies, that money matters but isn't everything when it comes to promoting economic development, and that the fate of developing countries is mainly in their own hands

Those home truths might s vious to seasoned observers of the international scene. "Why on earth did it take so long to figure this out?" asked one recently retired senior World Bank official.

But the conclusions are refreshingly sensible coming from an institution that for years counted its successes in terms of the number of projects ap-proved and the amount of funds allocated, rather than by assessing broader economic and social developments in the recipient countries.

The book contains some epic horror stories for taxpayers in donor na-tions. In Tanzania, for instance, donors poured a colossal \$2 billion over 20 years into building roads, but, for lack of maintenance, the country's road system deteriorated faster than new roads could be constructed.

Compiled by Our Stuff From Disputation

EL SEGUNDO, California — Mattel Inc., the world's largest toymaker,

agreed Monday to buy Learning Co. for \$3.8 billion in stock in an effort to catch up with its rival, Hasbro Inc., in the fast-

growing educational and entertainment

Mattel, the maker of Barbie dolls, Hot

Wheels cars and Fisher-Price infant toys, also warned that profit would be less than expected for the fourth quarter in a

row because Toys 'R' Us Inc. and other

software market

Mattel to Buy Learning Co.

In Bid to Grow With Market

The bank also lists plenty of cases in the "what works" side of the ledger: Aid succeeded spectacularly, it says, in Botswana and South Korea in the 1960s, Indonesia in the 1970s, Bolivia and Ghana in the late 1980s and

Uganda and Vietnam in the 1990s.
The lessons of these experiences are particularly pertinent now that of-ficial foreign aid has fallen to less than one-quarter of 1 percent of the rich countries' total economic output, the lowest level since comparable statistics began in the 1950s.

The decline is due to the end of the Cold War, which curtailed the lavishing of aid on such countries as the former Zaire for "strategic" reasons, the surge in private capital flows to the developing world, and budgetary constraints in donor nations — so much so that many now question whether aid is needed at all. The World Bank, of course, thinks

it is. But the bank says the money should go not necessarily to the poorest nations, but to those that have well-run economies — with low in-flation, healthy budgets and open markets — and sound institutions, as measured by the rule of law, the quality of the bureaucracy and the pervasiveness of corruption.

Development assistance, it says

is more about supporting good institutions and policies than providing capital." Domestic economic management matters more than financial aid, and ideas are frequently more important than money. Studies also show that World Bank

loans intended to promote economic reforms are more likely to succeed if leaders are democratically elected, and the chances are highest immediately after new reform-minded governments take office. Mr. Chavez, please note. Many of the policies that make aid

work, of course, also appeal to private investors, heiping to make future aid less necessary. But, the bank says, reforms suggested by outsiders rarely succeed unless the government is appringly convinced that they are genuinely convinced that they are necessary. Mr. Primakov - and the IMF - please note.

E-mail address: thinkahead@washpost.com

The purchase of Learning Co., the top

maker of educational programs such as "Reader Rabbit" and "Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?," will help Mattel compete against such popular Hasbro software tries as "Frogger"

The market for educational programs has been heating up. Last month, Havas

SA of France agreed to acquire the software arm of Cendant Corp. for about \$985 million, putting it neck-and-neck with Learning Co. as the world's largest

See MATTEL, Page 19

and "Falcon."

Business Confidence in Japan Dives

Manufacturers' Sentiment Hits Record Low, Tankan Report Shows

Compiled by Our Stuff From Disputches

TOKYO - With credit scarce and consumer demand in the doldrums, business confidence at Japan's small and medium-size manufacturers has plunged to a record low, the Bank of Japan said Monday.

Confidence at large manufacturers

also has continued to erode, falling to its worst level since February 1994, the central bank said.

In a closely watched quarterly report known as the tankan, the bank said business sentiment at small and medium-size manufacturers had deteriorated during the past three months to negative 60, the lowest level since the bank began its tankan surveys in 1967. The bank's last survey, in September, showed sentiment for this group of companies at negative 57.

The report gives little backing to upbeat views by some government of-ficials who said the economy was close to bottoming out.

'There is a gap between how some in the government view the economy and how we see it," said Mamoru Yamaza-

ki, a senior economist with Paribas Capital Markets. "I don't detect any signs of

embryonic movement. He was referring to a term coined by Taichi Sakaiya, head of the government's Economic Planning Agency. Mr. Sakaiya used the term to suggest an

imminent upturn in economic activity. Investors were unnerved by the tankan report, and the benchmark Japanese stock index on the Tokyo Stock Exchange slid 2.04 percent, to 14,111.62 points.

The tankan measures the percentage of companies that see business conditions as improving minus the percentage of firms that see conditions as worsening. The central bank surveyed a total of 9,129 companies.

The bank report's findings came amid

Japan's worst recession since World War II. Unemployment has risen to alltime highs, bankruptcies have soared, and consumer spending has shriveled. Earlier this month, the government

said Japan's economy - the world's second-largest -- had contracted in the most recent quarter by an annualized

rate of 2.6 percent. The country has now experienced its longest slump in more

than 40 years. The Bank of Japan survey showed that large manufacturers expect their allimportant export sales to decline during the second half of the fiscal year ending in March. That pessimism appears to reflect concerns about slowing growth in the United States and doubts about a recovery for Asian neighbors suffering from a regional financial crisis.

To try to spur demand and rekindle growth, Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's government has drawn up a stimulus package worth a record \$206 billion.

But the survey showed the package was not sufficient to brighten sentiment among business managers. "I think basically corporations feel the impact of the economic packages will be limited," said Kazuhiko Ogata, a senior economist at ABN-AMRO.

For March, both major manufacturers and non-manufacturers expect an improvement in sentiment, forecasting diffusion indexes of minus 48 and minus 34 respectively.

Shell to Sell 40% of Chemicals Units

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

LONDON - As the lowest prices in 12 years torment the oil industry, Royal Dutch/Shell Group said Monday it would sell off 40 percent of its chemicals businesses and take \$4.5 billion in special charges as part of a sweeping reorganization designed to improve its return on capital.

largest publicly traded oil company was largest publicity traded oil company was the latest sign of upheaval in the oil industry following British Petroleum Co.'s planned purchase of Amoco Corp., and Exxon Corp.'s proposed acquisition of Mobil Corp. The cutbacks are expected to affect Royal Dutch operations as far afield as Texas, Venezuela, Britain, Norway and France. tain, Norway and France. At a meeting with analysts, the chair-

man of the company, Mark Moody-Stuart, described the measures as a "clearing out of the cupboard," but he declined to specify how many of the company's 105,000 workers would lose their jobs as a result of the moves.

Before the meeting Monday, there had been speculation that Mr. Moody-Stuart might use the occasion to announce a merger, possibly with Chevron Corp. But he seemed to rule out immediate merger plans.
"We have a great deal to do in our

own shop," he said. "We have looked at merger possibilities and will continue to look at such possibilities, and if the right opportunity arises. He added that Royal Dutch/Shell

Group was "large enough to be the leading company on our own without a Mr. Moody-Stuart said the \$4.5 billion in special charges would be applied

to fourth-quarter earnings, and that the restructuring would reduce annual costs by \$2.5 billion by 2001. The calculations, he said, were based on expectations that oil prices might remain at about \$10 a barrel next year, but would average \$14 over the next five years. Only one year ago, the forecast was for an average of \$18 per barrel.

Plummeting oil prices, compounded by falling demand in Asia, have chewed

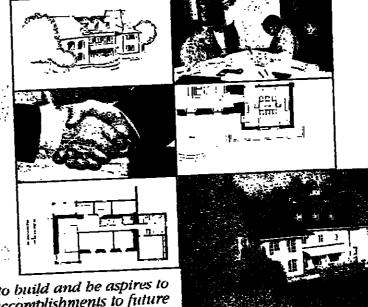
Internationa

into oil company profits this year. Royal Dutch, for instance, reported a 31 percent fall in its profits in the first nine months of this year, to \$4.3 billion. The benchmark Brent crude oil price

remained just below \$10 a barrel Monday, compared to a high last year of close to \$25.

The aim of the reorganization is to raise the company's return on capital employed from the 9 percent it recorded in the year ended last September to 14 percent. Still, that goal is down from a previously forecast return on capital of 15 percent. Analysts offered mixed views on the announcement, with some saying Royal Dutch had fallen short of what had been expected and others arguing that the level of forecast cost reductions was in line with those envisaged by the Exxon-Mobil deal.

The markets, too, gave an uncertain reaction. Shell Transport & Trading, the part of the Anglo-Dutch group listed in London, fell 2 pence to 352 (\$5.92), while in Amsterdam, Royal Dutch Petroleum shares rose 1.40 guilders to 87.80 (\$47.19).



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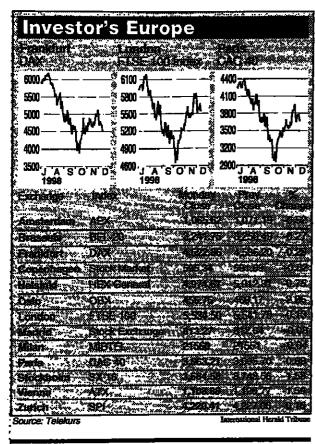
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big retailers cut orders. Mattel shares fell \$8,5625, to close at \$21.5625.

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EUROPE



Very briefly:

 Olivetti SpA and Mannesmann AG, eager to own more of Europe's No. 3 mobile-phone company, Omnited Pronto italia SpA, may have to raise their \$1.5 billion offer for Cellular Communications International Inc. Shares in CCI, which owns 10.3 percent of Omnitel and is based in New York, rose \$4.25 to \$66.25 Friday — above the offer of \$65.75 a share — and rose \$2.125 more in late trading Monday.

• Giovanni Agnelli & Co., the closely held holding company of the family that controls Fiat SpA, voted to boost its share

 Romania agreed to sell 51 percent of Romanian Bank for Development SA, its fourth-largest bank, to Societe Generale SA of France for \$200 million.

• The European Central Bank said the euro-zone M-3 money supply grew at an annual rate of 4.8 percent in October, up from 4.3 percent in September.

• Adam Opel AG, the German unit of General Motors Corp., plans to invest 650 million Deutsche marks (\$394.1 million) at its plant in Kaiserslautern to produce an advanced light-alloy engine. Production at the plant is scheduled to start

U.K. Utility Bids for U.S. Electric Unit

LONDON -- National Grid Group PLC became the second British electricity company within a week Monday to try to break into the U.S. market as it unveiled a \$4.6 billion bid for New England Electric System.

National Grid, which operates the English and Welsh electricity transmission networks, said it would pay \$53.75 for each New England Electric share and assume \$1.4 billion of the U.S. company's debt.

New England Electric shares rose by \$5.125 to \$48.125 in late trading on the New York Stock Exchange. National Grid shares finished at 488 pence (\$8.24), a drop of 10.5 pence in London trading.

The deal follows Scottish-

Power PLC's £4.7 billion bid for PacifiCorp, which it tendered Dec. 7.

New England Electric, one of the leading electric utilities in the northeastern United States, would become a whollyowned subsidiary of National Grid. The U.S. company serves about 1.3 million customers, mainly in the transmission and distribution of electricity in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire.

The British company had previously said it wanted to expand into the United States, the world's biggest electricity mar-ket, as the British sector becomes mature.

The National Grid chief executive, David Iones, said New England was attractive since deregulation was more advanced there than in other regions. (Reuters, Bridge News)

Paris May Cut Aerospatiale Stake to Aid Merger

PARIS - The French government would be prepared to cut its stake in Aerospatiale if that would lead to the inclusion of the nation's biggest defense company in a merger with British Aerospace PLC and DaimlerChrysler Aerospace AG, the finance minister was reported as saying Monday.

Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn told the business daily Les Echos that the government would "reconsider" its plan to keep 48 percent of Aerospatiale.

British Aerospace and Daimler-Chrysler Aerospace have said they would not consider joining forces with companies in which govern-ments hold a stake.

Chris Avery, an aerospace ana-

"too late to get Aerospatiale back in the forefront of defense consolidation." Mr. Avery expects British short of pledging to a Aerospace and DaimlerChrysler government's shares. Acrospace to combine early next

Talks between BAe and Daimler-Chrysler Aerospace have forced other European companies to accelerate discussions on alliances withdraw fully from Aerospaaimed at cutting costs to offset a tiale." drop in defense spending.

General Electric Co., a British maker of defense, electronic and power equipment, said it has been in intense" merger talks with several companies.

Aerospatiale itself — which is at present wholly state-owned — is trol will make it easier for the compa-

In the article in Les Echos on Monday, Mr. Strauss-Kahn stopped short of pledging to sell all of the

Rainer Ohler, a spokesman for DaimlerChrysler, said, "We'll only arrive at a European aerospace and defense company if we have the clear prospect that the state will

A combination of the British and German defense companies would be simpler than a merger that included Aerospatiale, since both companies are publicly traded, analysts said.

The absence of government con-

lyst at Paribas in London, said Mr. merging with other French defense nies to reduce costs through plant Strauss-Kahn's comment comes companies. closures and job cuts, they said.
As a result, the two companies which already work together on the Eurofighter, Europe's best-selling combat jet, would be better placed to compete with their bigger U.S. rivals, Boeing Co. and Lockheed

Martin Corp.
We still insist that France will need to clearly commit itself to 100 percent privatization" before Aerospatiale can be considered as a partner in a broader European merger, said a DaimlerChrysler spokesman, Rainer Ohler. But another spokesman for

DaimlerChrysler said that the comments by Mr. Strauss-Kahn were "a step in the right direction."

(Bloomberg, AFP)

Limit on Diamond Supply Hurts De Beers Sales

LONDON - De Beers/Centenary AG, the world's biggest diamond miner and marketer, said Monday that 1998 sales fell to their lowest level in 11 years as it limited

supply to keep prices from falling.
The Central Selling Organization, De Beers's marketing arm, said
it sold \$3.35 billion worth of rough diamonds this year, compared with \$4.64 billion last year. The 1998 figure was the lowest since De Beers sold \$3.08 billion in 1987.

Hurt by alumping demand in Asia, De Beers has tried stabilize prices by using its control of 70 percent of world sales of rough diamonds to restrict supply. Demand is especially low in Japan, which is suffering its worst recession in 50 years. Japanese consumers buy a fifth of all polished diamonds. De Beers's second-half sales of

\$1.65 billion were the lowest since

1984 and 7 percent lower than last year. De Beers shares closed Mon-day in Johannesburg at 76.8 rand

(\$12.90), down 30 cents. The company sells its own rough diamonds and those it buys from other miners to diamantiers, or diamond cutters, who process the gems for use in the jewelry and industrial

De Beers said it would continue its

markets. There is no benchmark price timated the Central Selling Orga-cent.

for rough diamonds because there are nization would end the year with a several thousand grades of the stone. monds — equivalent to 18 months of sales. He added that poor sales policy of restricting supply.

Roger Chaplin, an analyst at the stockbrokerage T. Hoare & Co, estockbrokerage T. Hoare & Co,

LVMH in Talks to Buy Fashion Unit of Sanofi

PARIS - LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA, the world's No. 1 huxury-goods maker, confirmed Monday that it was in talks to buy Sanofi SA's fashion and cosmetics unit, though the company said no agreement had been reached.

The statement followed a report in the French newspaper Le Figaro that LVMH agreed to buy the busi-ness, which includes the Yves Saint Laurent brand of clothing and perfumes, for about 5 billion francs

ment on the terms.

Sanofi is selling the business as part of its planned merger with another French drug company, Synthelabo SA, whose parent L'Oreal was not interested in acquiring Sanofi's cosmetics division.

Sanofi had said last week that it "This won't help LVMH's prof-was in talks with LVMH on the sale itability in the short to medium of the unit, which had sales of 4 term," said James Rasteh, a fund billion francs last year.

The acquisition would allow ment in New York.

LVMH, which owns the Christian

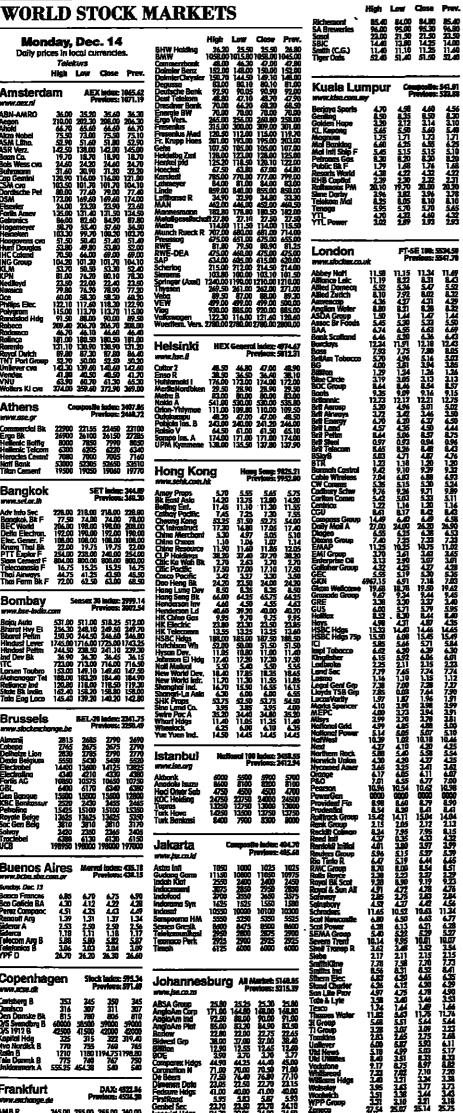
LVMH shares fe (\$900.8 million) and an additional Dior and Givenchy brands, to funnel 1.2 billion francs in assumed debt. more prestigious names through its francs to 977 (Bloomberg, Reuters)

LVMH and Sanofi would not com- retail network, expanded last year with the acquisition of a majority stake in the retailer DFS Group.

The takeover could be poorly timed, however, since LVMH is dealing with losses at DFS and dwindling Asian sales, analysa

manager at Sierra Global Manage-

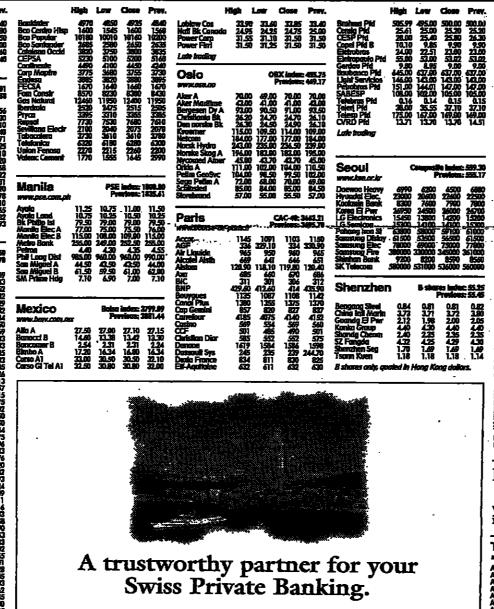
LVMH shares fell 56 francs to 1.015, while Sanofi shares rose 13



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40.00 54.00 171.90 56.00 77.00 45.00 10.00 **Market Closed** The Tel Aviv stock market was closed Monday for a hol-7370 71518 450 15518 7555 75518 75518 7555 75518 75518 7555 75518 75518 7555 75518 75518 7555 75518 75518 75518 7555 75518 7551 Vienna Wellington 235 144 148 148 148 148 152 179 135 0.45 1.45 1.50 1.09 4.51 2.33 7.79 Zurich

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ASLA/PACIFIC

China Plans To Accelerate Streamlining

* BEIJING — China aims to make at least a third of its loss making state-owned companies profitable next year by stepping up the pace of reforms, government run media re-ported Monday.

75 At a senior-level government conference held over the weekend, Deputy Prime Minister Wu Bangguo urged further streamlining of state cutexprises in 1999 to cut

losses, the China Daily reported. Mr. Wu called for tough measures to stop duplicate investments and for closing inefficient small mines, Il refineries and steel mills that waste energy and spew heavy pollution, the report said.

c China also plans to draft new measures on writing off bad loans that will improve the efficiency of capital flow in state banks and chan-sel funds to where they can be used

best, the report said. . The country is trying to turn its debt-ridden state companies, which have long survived on easy credit from government banks, into corporations that can compete in world markets. Millions of excess workers in the huge state sector are being laid

Analysts estimate that about 40 percent of China's state companies are unprofitable.

» Enterprises should improve techcology, step up quality control and thake products that are suited to market demand, Mr. Wn said. 26 Separately, the China Daily said a revision of the bankruptcy laws is needed because current measures have not been effective in halting

the slide in state-sector profits. Beijing Reins in Deficit

China's 1998 budget deficit is expected to come in under the target gure of 96 billion yuan (\$11.59 illion), Finance Minister Xiang Huaicheng was quoted Monday as gaying, Agence France-Presse re-

Due to efforts to stimulate ecosomic growth and allocate aid for Inid-off workers and disaster-hit eas, the increase in expenditures

ating as saying.
In the first ten months of the year 744.48 billion ynan. Total expendifire over the same period was 746.41

Now Here's an Original Gift Idea

As Asia's Financial Crisis Persists, Shoppers Turn to Fakes

The Associated Press watches, talking Telembbies dolls middle-aged shoppers browse at and Calvin Klein boxer shorts will stalks selling clothing, toys, election many Christmas stockings tronics, watches, inflatable south Korea and Southeast Asia, fill many Christmas stockings across Asia this year.

But watch out if the goodies are from Hong Kong: They may turn out to be Telotubbies, Roluxes and Gioven Kelvins As Asia's financial crisis per-

sists, more holiday shoppers are turning to cheaper counterfeit

"People don't have as much money now," said Calvin Leung, head of intellectual property pro-tection of the Customs and Excise Department.
Do you know how much it is to

buy a designer suit for your wife? And do you know how much you can save if you buy a copy?" Shoppers from around the world

know the answer. "They're terribly fake," said Peter Schmidt, a German banker Some of the newly unemployed are also at work selling fakes. "I wouldn't do this if I could counterfeit Ralph Lauren T-shirts

HONG KONG — Rolex ket, tourists, trendy teenagers and selling fakes.

couches and compact disks. At one stall, cheap speakers blasted out "My Heart Will Go On," the theme song for the blockbuster film "Titanic." But "Celine Dion" was singing conspicuously a couple of keys too low and in a cold-stricken voice.

some of the goods look real gan: "Stop piracy! Be original! Buy original!" vendor insisted. smell like leather. Each carries a "certificate of authenti-

"This is the real thing," the

Despite the heavy penalty — counterfeit dealers in Hong Kong can face fines or up to five years in prison — plenty of retailers are getting into the lucrative trade. Some of the newly unemployed

from a hawker Mr. Schmidt paid \$3.80 per shirt — compared with \$55 for the real thing.

"You can throw them away after one day," Mr. Schmidt said.

I wooten t do this it I could find a job," said a man selling bogus designer bags who gave only his first name, Rodrigo, "You go to jail if you get caught."

Rodrigo, 18, lost his job as a

In the Temple Street night mar- waiter and now gets \$449 a month

Mr. Lenng at the customs depart-

Hong Kong is also a conduit for shipping the goods into other markets, including Taiwan and Singapore, he said.

Singapore officials, fearing hard times will prompt people to buy fakes, launched a pre-Christmas campaign featuring the slo-

Hong Kong customs officials arrested 619 people and seized counterfeits worth \$5.8 million. But cracking down on piracy is

difficult, Mr. Lenng said. Because Hong Kong is a relarively small market, many copyright holders will not spend the money to sue pirates here. The government can do little without

their help, Mr. Leung said. "It is extremely easy to take a person to court," Mr. Leung said. But how to prove to the court that the goods are fake is extremely

Packer to Acquire

Australian Casino

Bloomberg News

MELBOURNE - Kerry

Packer said Monday he would

buy Crown Ltd. through his

Publishing & Broadcasting Ltd. company for about 555 million

Australian dollars (\$345.5 mil-

lion), adding Australia's largest

casino to his entertainment, me-

dia and sporting businesses.

Publishing & Broadcasting said it would offer one of its

shares for every 11 Crown

shares. The company will also

buy Crown's converting pref-erence shares held by Hudson

Crown has been looking for a

way to cut its debt by about 1

billion dollars and speed the payment of a dividend to its

shareholders. Crown did not say whether Publishing &

Conway Ltd.

Manila Banks On Tokyo Aid For Airline

MANILA - Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu said the Philippine government was considering using a Japanese regional aid plan to raise the \$150 million needed to keep

Philippine Airlines flying.
Finance Minister Kileho Miyazawa drafted a plan in October in which Japan pledged \$30 billion to help Southeast Asian countries recover. Under the plan, the Export-Import Bank of Japan, a semigovernment financial institution, would guarantee loans by Southeast Asian nations and would also purchase government bonds from those coun-

The Philippines is hoping to re-ceive as much as \$2 billion from the so-called Miyazawa plan, including guarantees on bond sales that could

lower borrowing costs.
| Since PAL is a key utility firm." Mr. Espiritu said, "we will talk to the Japan Export-Import Bank and Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund for the \$150 million needed to make PAL viable." A week ago, the carrier unveiled a

rehabilitation plan that called for a capital infusion of \$150 million as well as rescheduling of \$2.2 billion in debt and a reduction of its fleet to The airline's efforts to find a stra-

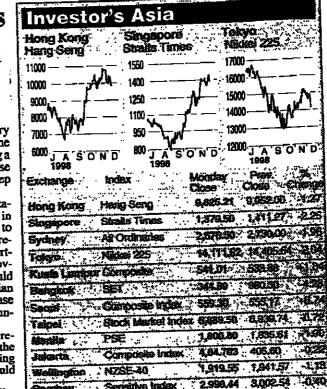
ofe partner so far have failed. Talks with Cathay Pacific Airways, and Northwest Airlines have broken down in recent weeks.

Cathay said this month that it had withdrawn from negotiations to buy a controlling stake because of disagreements over management con-

trol, job cuts and other issues. The chief financial officer of the Philippine flag carrier, Jaime Bautista, said at the time that talks with Northwest Airlines had "fizzled out" after Cathay Pacific reached a preliminary agreement Nov. 10 to buy a 40 percent stake and take management control of the

Mr. Espiritu said the loans from Japan would be a prelude to the sale of an unspecified number of preferred shares that will be convertible into airline stock.

Philippine Airlines, Asia's oldest commercial airline, halted payments on \$2.2 hillion in debts in June after a pilots' strike pushed the airline to the brink of collapse. It also suspended operations for two weeks starting Sept. 23 because of mounting losses and labor prob-lems. (Reuters, Bloomberg)



Very briefly:

• Samsung Electronics Co., the second-biggest publicly traded company in South Korea, turned to its shareholders for more cash for the third time since April, seeking to raise as much as 520 billion won (\$430.8 million). Samsung is under government pressure to reduce its debt-to-equity ratio to 200 percent by the end of next year, or face a cutoff in fresh loans.

 The World Bank said it would lend as much as 90 percent of the cost of Philippine projects, the first time it has agreed to do so, boosting capital inflows into the country by as much as \$300 million. Previously, the World Bank limited financing to 60 percent to 70 percent of the cost, with the rest coming from the government.

• Guangzhou International Trust & Investment Corp. one of the financial arms of the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou in Guangdong Province, missed a \$5 million payment on a letter of credit last week. The payment on the 360-day commercial debt should have been rendered to a U.S.-based multinational on Dec. 7. The multinational has not been named and the terms of the debt were not disclosed.

• Mondragon International Philippines Inc.'s golf-andcasino resort was seized by the Philippine government in an escalating battle over the operations of Mimosa Leisure Estate. State-run Clark Development Corp. said it terminated Mondragon's lease and took over Mimosa's assets because the developer failed to build a water park and five-star hotel as promised.

 PT Astra International, Indonesia's largest automaker, suffered a setback in its push to restructure its \$1.4 billion in debt as creditors rejected its move to halt interest payments. The company defaulted on the debt in October, saying it may need to suspend payments for as long as two years.

• PT Indosat, Indonesia's international phone firm, plans to sell 17 percent of the company to a foreign buyer through a share issue and the government's reduction of its majority stake.

• Malaysian industrial output rose 5.5 percent in October from a month earlier, the first gain in three months, as lower interest rates helped boost manufacturing.

MCI WorldCom Bids to Buy Australian E-Mail Provider

mail Ltd., the biggest electronic-mail provider in Australia, to ex-

pand its presence in Asia. The cash bid of 520 million Australian dollars (\$323.8 million) won Ozemail directors who together would be its first acquisition of an own 54 percent of the company. Internet service provider in the Malcolm Tumbull, Sean Howard Asia-Pacific region. and Trevor Kennedy said they in-tended to accept WorldCom's offer unless they received a higher bid. MCI. WorldCom said OzEmail

erating arm of its UUNET subsi-The Asia-Pacific region is of key strategic importance to us and the synergies between OzEmail and China's total revenues reached MCI WorldCom are clear," said Australian market in October. John Sidgmore, vice chairman of MCL WorldCom

would become the Australian op-

holds that accessed the Internet in SYDNEY MCI WorldCom the six months to August jumped 46 percent to 1.24 million, or 18 percent of the population. OzEmail said the volume of electronic mail it processes for its subscribers had

doubled in the past 90 days. UUNET offers Internet services the conditional approval of three in more than 76 countries. OzEmail

Asia-Pacific region.

Takeover talk has followed OzEmail since October, though the company is still posting losses even after customer numbers doubled in the past year to about 250,000. America Online Inc. was said to be interested in buying the company. Analysts said AOL, the world's largest online service provider, was struggling to gain subscribers after entering the

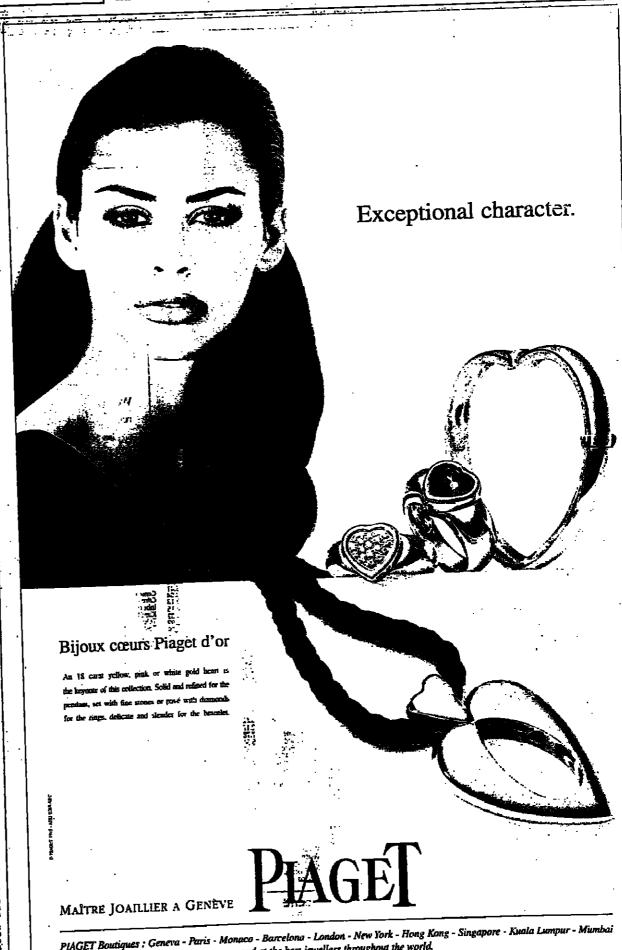
OzEmail closed Monday at 3.58

| 1.11 | 1.12 | 1.12 | 1.12 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 | 1.13 |

Broadcasting would assume responsibility for the debt. dollars, up 19 cents. (Reuters, Bloomberg) The number of Australian house-NYSE services of the state of t

29% SAP AG # 57% SAP AG # 5

Continued on Page 18



هكذا من الأصلي



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Investor's America

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30-Year T-Bond Yield

RJR to Cut Jobs, Seeing Lower Sales

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp., the parent of the second-biggest U.S. tobacco company, said Monday it was cutting 3,900 tobacco jobs worldwide, nearly 16 percent of its cigarette work force.

The cuts by the maker of Winston and Camel cigarettes include about 1,000 jobs in the United States, where fewer cigarettes are expected to be sold following the price increase last month of 45 cents per pack —a result of the industry's \$206 billion settlement with states , bver health claims.

The new layoffs will be in addition to 315 job cuts in the United States that the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco division announced last month

We knew when we agreed to resolve the state tobacco litigation that the domestic tobacco company would have to make enormous sacrifices financially and operationally," said Steven Goldstone, chief executive of RJR Nabisco Holdings.

The remaining 2,900 job cuts will be in Russia and the other former Soviet states, where RJR says, the economic turmoil is making smokers seek cheap-er brands. RJR employs 8,800 people in its U.S. tobacco oprations and 16,000 overseas.

Meanwhile, Nabisco Holdings Corp., which is 80.6 percent owned by RJR, said it would eliminate about 1,500 jobs and close plants, mostly overseas, in the second phase of a restruc-turing aimed at making the food company more competitive.

As a result of the moves in the tobacco and food businesses, RJR expects to take a charge of \$348 million, or \$1.07 a share, against earnings in the fourth quarter. It said the savings could reach \$175 million a year beginning in 2000. RJR shares closed up 50 cents, \$28.8125.

Martin Feldman, tobacco analyst at Salomon Smith Barney, said be doubted that the tobacco industry leader, Philip Morris Cos., would cut jobs on the scale that RJR has. He noted that Philip Morris offered early retirement incentives recently in anticipation of a settlement.

Fears About Profits and Politics Hit Stocks

Compiled by Our Staff Pross Disposehe. NEW YORK - Stocks fell Mon-

day, weighed down by earnings disappointments and U.S. political unsteady autumn recovery.
"Perhaps fundamentals are now

catching up with reality," said Charles White, president of Avatar Associates in New York. Companies with Dresdner RCM Global Inthat are part of the S&P 500 index vestors in San Francisco.

closed down 126.16 points, or 1.4 percent, at 8,695.60.

62.59 points, or 3 percent, to

for a fifth straight trading day against the yen Monday on concern

impeachment proceedings against President Bill Clinton may distract

the U.S. government and as Japan

took steps to repair its troubled

The dollar extended those losses

"The possibility of a Clinton im-

Continued from Page 15

Sales of educational programs

maker of the best-selling Furby. Hasbro also acquired the Atari

Video Game division of JTS Corp.

a market researcher

Japan's government said Sunday sense Japan acted quickly on Nipthat it would take over Nippon Credpon. That's remarkable in light of

it Bank in a move seen as a sign the how long and drawn out decisions

peachment is bearish for the dollar, Deutsche marks from 1.6495 DM.

in Japan, said Ku Shin, director of at 1.3269 Swiss francs, down from

cleaning up the banking industry, burdened by more than 72 trillion yen (\$617.39 billion) in risky loans.

The dollar was quoted at 11 yen at 4 P.M., down from 116 the end of the day on Friday.

maker of educational software, cational software, NPD said.

October, as traditional toy sales fell up," said Christopher Byrne, editor 6 percent, according to NPD Group. of Playthings Marketwatch news-

In the last year, Hasbro bought the software game maker MicroProse Inc. and Tiger Electronics Inc.,

government was serious about are made in Japan."

banking system.

as U.S. stocks declined.

certainties. Some analysts said the taking money off of the table with market was due for a breather after a some of these stocks at new highs," said Walter Price, a fund manager

trade at an average 30 times their earnings for the past 12 months, a record, according to First Call Corp.

The Down Jones industrial average to 1,141.18. Mattel tumber to 1,141.18. Mattel tumber to 1,141.18. Mattel tumber to 1,141.19. The company to warm of profit shortfalls. The world's biggest toymaker was the most active stock Broader stock indicators also fell in U.S. trading, and the biggest loser. The Nasdaq composite index fell in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index. "Earnings estimates across the 7/32, pushing its yield down to 4.98 United States.

Dollar Falls Against Yen for a 5th Day

Bloomberg News

Asian economic analysis at First 1.3285 francs. The pound rose to NEW YORK — The dollar fell Chicago NBD Corp. in Chicago. \$1.6935 from \$1.6890.

The pound rose to Chicago NBD Corp. in Chicago. \$1.6935 from \$1.6890.

The pound rose to Chicago NBD Corp. in Chicago. In Japan, the government's move that the ven Monday on control to the chicago NBD Corp. in Chicago. In Japan, the government's move that the pound rose to the chicago NBD Corp. in Chicago.

ting tougher and tougher."

The outlook for the dollar is gen-

erally bearish," said Diego Giurleo,

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

manager of foreign exchange at Royal Bank of Canada. "There's a

The dollar was quoted at 115.525

The dollar eased to 1.6480

while the Nippon takeover is quite The dollar was also at 5.5290 tankan survey fell to minus 56, as positive for the banking industry" French francs, up from 5.5275, and expected, worse than the minus 51 in

MATTEL: World's Largest Toymaker to Buy Learning Co.

year, versus \$580 million for edu-

"The world has changed very

jumped 24 percent from January to fast, and toymakers haven't kept lion this year. It will also hold back

letter. "Why smack two action fig-

erated sales of \$20.3 billion last \$1 billion interactive software busi-

and chief executive, said: "We have tailers doing the same thing, Mattel

begun the process of transforming wasn't getting the sales into the Mattel from a toy company to a channel," said Tim Ghriskey, se-

ven at 4 P.M., down from 116.62 at

1,966.72 as investors sold off high- board are too high," considering percent from 5.02 percent. thying computer stocks.

"People have a lot of gains, and it wouldn't surprise me to see them taking money off of the table with

> that the impeachment proceedings against President Bill Clinton would hobble his leadership of the world's largest economy.

Cola, Merck and other companies declined after warning investors that earnings would not meet forecasts.

U.S. bonds rose as investors that tourings would not meet forecasts.

U.S. bonds rose as investors that transactions. Bell Atlantic, GTE, SBC and Ameritech all fell. Together transactions are companied associated as the companies of the benchmark 30-year transactions. price of the benchmark 30-year er, the four companies would control treasury bond rose 22/32 to 104 two-thirds of local phone lines in the

to take over Nippon instilled con-fidence that legislators were com-mitted to cleaning up the troubled

banking system more swiftly than

expected.

This shows that the bank reform

has a little teeth to it," said Jamie Coleman, a senior analyst at Thom-

son Global Markets in Boston. "The

Japanese have said enough is enough.

In the past, something like this would

A report Monday showing Japanese business confidence had fallen

failed to offset the dollar's losses

The headline index in the Bank of

Japan's closely followed quarterly

Mattel said inventory cutbacks by retailers reduced sales by \$350 mil-

goods for the spring that it typically

ships to retailers in December, reducing sales this year by an additional \$150 million.
"With Toys 'R' Us reducing in-

ventories dramatically and other re-

have dragged on forever."

going to decimate any company that that have posted gains recently.

Shares of some local telephone Investors were also concerned companies fell as the Federal Communications Commission considered whether to allow Bell Atlantic's \$79 billion acquisition of GTE and SBC Communications' Last week, J.P. Morgan, Coca- \$79 billion purchase of Ameritech.

Consumer advocates and some

Hughes Buys Broadcaster

Bloomberg News EL SEGUNDO, California

— Hughes Electronics Corp., owner of DirecTV, the No. 1
U.S. satellite television company, agreed Monday to buy a smaller rival, U.S. Satellite
Broadcasting Co., for about Very briefly: \$1.3 billion.

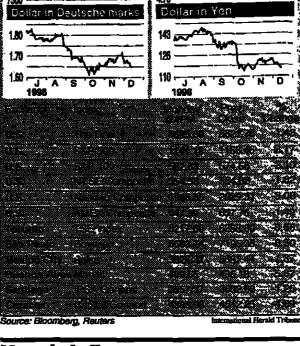
Hughes, a unit of General Motors Corp., will pay \$14.44 a share in either cash or stock for U.S. Satellite.

The move comes after EchoStar Communications Corp., the No. 3 U.S. satellite company, agreed to buy the satellite assets of News Corp. and MCI WorldCom Inc. to increase its service to 500 channels. With U.S. Satellite, DirecTV will add Home Box Office and 24 other channels to its 185 channels.

"Hughes has wanted to buy USSB for a long time," said Armand Musey, an analyst at CE Unterberg Towbin, who has a "neutral" rating on USSB shares. "Now Hughes is super-motivated to ante up because of

EchoStar. The shares of Hughes fell \$1.5625 to \$36.6875 Monday, while U.S. Satellite rose

\$2.8125 to \$12.4375. Last week, U.S. Satellite shares rose 38 percent as some investors speculated Hughes would buy the company. The No. 2 satellite-TV provider is Primestar Inc. U.S. Satellite is No. 4 based on annual revenue.



• Microsoft Corp. will invest \$200 million in Qwest Communications Corp. as part of a strategic relationship between the two companies that will see Qwest launch a business services network in early 1999.

• Oracle Corp. and Sun Microsystems Inc. confirmed they would license each other's software to create new server appliances that will essentially bypass Microsoft Corp.'s Windows NT operating system.

 Placer Dome Inc. of Canada said it would buy Getchell Gold Corp. for about \$1.09 billion in stock, bolstering the U.S. presence of North America's third-largest gold producer.

 American Oncology Resources Inc. and Physician Reliance Network Inc., two of the largest U.S. operators of cancer treatment centers, announced a \$715 million merger to create a company that could treat 13 percent of all new cancer patients in the United States. The deal will form the largest cancer treatment company in the country.

• Sky Financial Group Inc. said it would buy First Western Bancorp Inc. for about \$434 million in stock as it expands its banking business in Pennsylvania.

Weekend Box Office

The Associated Press LOS ANGELES -- "Star Trek: Insurrection" dominated the U.S. box office over the weekend, with a gross of \$22.4

Following are the Top 10 moneymakers, based on Saturday's ticket sales and estimated sales for Sunday.

1. Stor Trek: Insurrection	Paramount "	\$22.4 mBi
2. A Bug's Life	Walt Disney	\$11 m a
3. Jack Frost	Warner Bros.	\$7 m2
4. Energy of the State	Touchstone Pictures	\$6.6 mj#
5. The Rugicis Movie	Paramount	\$4.5 mil
6. The Wulerboy	Touchstone Pictures	\$4.3 mile
7. Psycho	Universal Pictures	\$3.8 m
B. Babe: Plg in the City	Universal Pictures	\$1.8 mæ
9. Maut Joe Black	Universal Pictores	河 和 6. [2
10. Elizabeth	PolyGram	\$1.3 m:E

and agreed to buy the games unit of Monarch Services Inc. The traditional toy market gen global children's products comnior portfolio manager at Dreyfus pany. As a result of this merger, we Corp., which held 191,200 shares in will achieve our goal of building a September. (Bloomberg, AP) The Trib Index + 11.49 World Index + 24.31 — 48.12 268.50 79.21 N. America — O.70 — 0.**26** + 0.41 +0.32Capital goods + 13.19 Consumer good 198.11 131.62 179.69 - 0.03 - 0.08 + 0.09 + 1.82 + 7.04 + 19.89 Energy Finance - 0.11 + 0.16 + 0.40 + 0.18 Miscellaneous Raw Materiels Service + 0.08

AMEX

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY | India | 1922 | 17 | 1823 | 17 | 1824 | 1825 | 17 | 1824 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 | 1825 **AMEX** Low Last 239h; 114h; 27h; 28h; 45h; 45h; 52; 57; 47h; 44h; 43h; 43h; 53; 57h; 12h; 12h; SPDR Gelchicht Vincis FANSPr Amber Telchin Telchin Twa Hobers 1100 M 大阪 大阪大 NYSE AMEX IRREGULAR 2 3.49 12-22 12-31 23 12-24 1-15 340 - 37 12-21 12-31

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Herald Eribune PORTS

Jagge Wins Slalom

SKIING Finn Christian Jagge of Norway beat Thomas Stangassinger, the Olympic champion, by 0.06 seconds Monday to win the floodlit World Cup slalom in Sestriere, Italy. Jure Kosir of Slovenia was third. Jagge finished with an aggregate time of 1 minute 51.92 (Reuters, IHT)

Cricket Betting Inquiry

CRICKET The International Cricket Council, the governing body of world cricket, said Monday that it was going to open an inquiry into a wave of match-fixing and betting allegations.

"The very fabric of the great game is being damaged due to the charges of match fixing or betting brought by the players, 'said Jag-mohan Dalmiya, the ICC president. The move follows confessions by

Shane Warne and Mark Waugh of Australia that they took money from a bookmaker for giving information on weather and pitches on a tour of Sri Lanka in 1994. (AFP)

 England reached 122 runs for four wickets in its second innings Monday on the fourth day of the third test against Australia in Adeeliade. England needs 321 more runs to win. Earlier in the day, Australia declared its second innings closed at 278 for five.

The second Test between Pakistan and Zimbabwe in Lahore ended in a draw as fog prevented play on the final day. (Reuters)



Michael Slater of Australia celebrating reaching a century.

Bans for Festina Riders

CYCLING The French Cyclin Federation on Monday banned three members of the Festina team for 41/2 months. The three, Laurent Brochard, Christophe Moreau and Didier Roux, I ad all admitted taking banned drugs. The federation is still investigating two other Festina riders, Richard Virenque and Pascal Herve.

Heart Surgery for Reeves

FOOTBALL Dan Reeves, the Atlanta Falcons' coach, entered hospital in Atlanta on Monday for triple-bypass surgery. Reeves felt ill as the Falcons won in New Orleans on Sunday.

WORLD ROUNDUP Jets Close In On Division Title, 21-16

Victory Over Dolphins Puts N.Y. Atop AFC East

MIAMI -- The New York Jets have waited 29 years, and now they're just 60 minutes away from the first NFL division title in their franchise's history. New York can clinch the American Football Conference East with a victory

NFL ROUNDUP

Saturday at Buffalo. The Jets (10-4) earned a playoff berth Sunday night, battering Dan Marino and beating the Miami Dolphins, 21-16. With the victory. New York moved a game ahead of the Dolphins and Bills.

The Jets won the Super Bowl in January 1969, but they haven't won a di-vision title since the National Football League and the American Football League merged in 1970. Now they're in first place just two years after going 1-

A grim Jimmy Johnson, who billed the game Sunday as the biggest in his three seasons as Miami's coach, had little to say about the loss. "We came up short," he said. "It's very disappoint-

The only happy Dolphins were members of the undefeated 1972 team, who celebrated Denver's first defeat of the season Sunday against the New York

Vinny Testaverde, the Jets quarter-back who was a college star at the University of Miami, outplayed Marino, setting up two touchdowns with long completions. The Jets won their fourth in a row completed a sween their fourth in a row, completed a sweep of the season series against Miami and handed the Dolphins their first defeat in

seven home games this year.

Marino finished 30-for-57 for 321 yards, but he was sacked five times. 'It's tough to take," he said. "The offense - we played horribly. With the defense playing as well as they did, we should win this game."

Leading 14-3 at the start of the fourth

quarter, New York stopped Marino three times down the stretch. Victor Green ended one scoring threat with an 87-yard interception return, and another Miami series ended at the Jets 45 with a Marino incompletion on fourth-and-i.

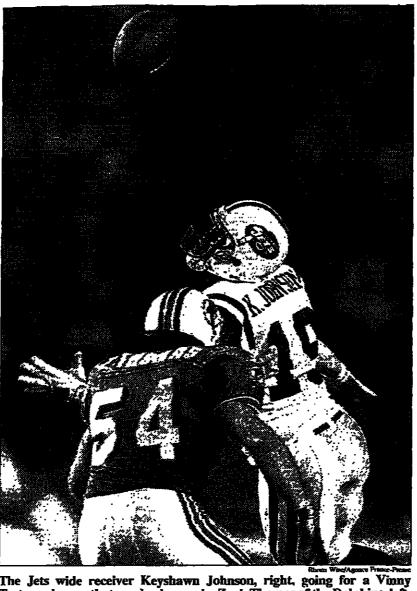
The New York linebacker Chad Cascadden then clinched the victory by returning a Marino fumble 23 yards for a touchdown, making the score 21-10 1:51 left.

Testaverde went 17-for-29 for 232 yards, including completions of 52 yards to Wayne Chrebet and 35 yards to Kyle Brady to set up touchdowns. Test-

averde hit Chrebet for a 12-yard score. Rams 32, Patriots 18 In St. Louis, Az Hakim and a former practice squad player, June Henley, each scored two touchdowns as the Rams overcame three first-half turnovers and a seasonending injury to their quarterback, Tony

Banks. Falcons 27, Saints 17 Terance Mathis caught touchdown passes of 63 and 62 yards from Chris Chandler as Atlanta won in New Orleans.

Bills 44, Raiders 21 Buffalo scored on six straight possessions to beat visiting



The Jets wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson, right, going for a Vinny Testaverde pass that was broken up by Zack Thomas of the Dolphins, left.

games and nine of 11. Doug Flutie com-pleted 17 of 26 passes for 174 yards and two touchdowns for the Bills, who are trying to become only the fourth team in league history to reach the playoffs after an 0-3 start.

Oilors 16, Jaguars 13 Al Del Greco kicked the winning 41-yard field goal with four seconds remaining to give Tennessee a victory in Jacksonville.

Seahawks 38, Chargers 17 In Seattle, the Seahawks intercepted a franchiserecord seven passes, including two apiece by Shawn Springs, Darryl Williams and Jay Bellamy.

Seattle returned one interception and a fumble for touchdowns to set an NFL record for the most TDs (12) scored off turnovers in a season. The Seahawks intercepted five passes by Craig Whelihan, the Chargers' starting quarterback, and two by the rookie Ryan Leaf, who played for the first time in five games.

Chiefs 20, Cowboys 10 In Kansas Bam Morris ru and a touchdown as the Chiefs handed Dallas its third straight loss.

In games reported in late editions,

Redskins 28, Panthers 25 Skip Hicks ran for two touchdowns as Washington extended its late-season surge with a victory in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Cardinals 20, Eagles 17 Chris Jacke, who missed a 34-yard field goal at the end of regulation time, kicked a 32yarder 4½ minutes into overtime to give Arizona a victory in Philadelphia. Packers 26, Bears 20 In Green Bay,

Dorsey Levens and Antonio Freeman had 100-yard days as the injury-riddled Packers beat Chicago for the ninth straight time. Levens, in his third game back from a broken leg that sidelined

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for 105 yards. Freeman, in his first game back from a fractured jaw, caught eight passes for 103 yards and a touchdown. Colts 39, Bengals 26 In Indianapolis,

Peyton Manning passed for 210 yards and three touchdowns as the Colts handed Cincinnati its ninth straight loss. Buccaneers 16, Steelers 3 Mike Al-

Buffalo has won four of its last five him for three months, carried 15 times

stott, the Tampa Bay running back, scored on a three-yard run and the Bucs forced five turnovers to win their third

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Flyers took the lead with 23.9

seconds to play, but still failed to win.

1 tie, Boris Mironov scored with 6.5

MML KOUNDUP

seconds remaining in regulation as

the Edmonton Oilers tied the Flyers,

kael Renberg, who was reacquired

from Tampa Bay and saw limited

action with Eric Lindros and John

LeClair, his former "Legion of

"It was weird, it was strange," Renberg said. "But at the same time it

was a great feeling. It was special, but

I'm disappointed we lost the game."
Philadelphia's Eric Desjardins

scored the apparent game-winner, only to have Mironov put in a rebound

in a late flurry in front of John Van-

The goal spoiled the return of Mi-

2-2, on Sunday night.

Doom" linemates.

Flyers Score Late, Oilers Reply

After the Flyers scored to snap a 1- together for the first time since Game 1 tie, Boris Mironov scored with 6.5 4 of the 1997 Stanley Cup finals, a

Chris Gratton.

Broncos Lick Wounds **And Try to Regroup**

Super Bowl Repeat Remains Goal, Coach Says

By T. J. Simers
Los Angeles Times Service

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey — The New York Giants have ruined Denver's perfect season and sabotaged the game that would have pitted the perfection-minded Broncos against the ghosts of the 1972 Miami Dolphins on American national television next Monday night.

Denver's perfect run ended with a 20-16 loss on Sunday before 72,336 in Giants Stadium, and the '72 Dolphins

were at peace again as the only undefeated team (17-0) in NFL history.
"I really thought they had a shot and I was looking forward to the Monday night matchup, but the Giants really rose to the occasion," said Don Shula, head coach of the '72 Dolphins. "I can't wait to get together with the '72 players and coaches because I'm sure they are just as excited as I am about still being the only undefeated team in the history of the NFL."

"The fact that a great football team just got beat underscores what a great accomplishment going undefeated

really was," Shula said.
The Broncos are 13-1 now, just another great football team again, and while no one was screaming, "The Giants win the pennant! The Giants win the pennant!" the New York players carried on in celebration like they never expected to win.

Denver's coach, Mike Shanahan, said, "The streak was something special, but obviously that's out the window." The loss was the first for his team since a Dec. 15, 1997, defeat in San

'Our goal remains the same, though: winning the Super Bowl," he said. The Broncos' victory streak ended at , one shy of a new NFL record.

"We were kind of flat out there," said Terrell Davis, the Denver running back, who required intravenous fluids during the game to compensate for a bout with stomach flu on Sunday morn-

Luke Richardson, fell down and lost

loss at Detroit that clinched the title

traded to Tampa Bay as part of the

complicated signing of free agent

The deal was reversed on Saturday,

Blackhawks 2, Stars 2 Pat Verbeck

when Philadelphia sent Gratton and

Mike Sillinger to the Lightning for

scored a power-play goal in the third period and Dallas stayed unbeaten

through five games by gaining a tie in

Renberg and Daymond Langkow.

Lindros, LeClair and Renberg were

ing. "You have to remember, everyone is trying to knock you off, playing their best and trying to keep you from going undefeated."

The Broncos had to rally to beat San Diego and Kansas City the previous two weeks. Now they are saddled with auxiliary, claiming they must regroup for the

stretch run.

"We haven't played very well as past few weeks and have some work to do to hit the playoffs running," said John Elway, the Denver quarterback, who is 1-4 in his career against the Giants. "Losing brings back some test memories, so now we have to look through the clutter and go back to our first goal and win the Super Bowl.".

at 6-8, kept the Broncos from scoring a at 0-5, kept the Broncos from scening a touchdown until the fourth quarter and limited Denver to its lowest point this since it rested Elway against San Diege in the final game of the 1996 season.

"I don't know who would have thought we would have thought we would have the little of the little

ball game if the Giants' offense got fact ball with two minutes to go," said him Fassel, the Giants' coach.

With 7:36 to play, the Giants were winning 13-9. But Elway responded to patented fashion with a 76-yard drift. capped by Davis's 27-yard touchdown run that gave Denver a 16-13 lead with

4:08 to play.
"Nobody gave up, nobody quits said Kent Graham, the New York quagterback, unable to explain why so many Giants fans were heading for the pader ing lot with 4:08 to play.

The Giants took possession, but their running back, Gary Brown — who had touched the ball 807 times withough fumble -- fumbled, and Bill Romanowski recovered for Denver. The Broncos appeared destined to go Miami unscathed Aided by a penuity, they needed again just five more yards for a first dose.

to run out the clock. But they handed the ball to Howard Griffith instead of Davis on third down for a loss of five.

Deriver punted, and the Giants light the ball with 1:49 to play with no time-outs. Graham completed a pass for 15 yards and then another for 11. With 17 seconds left and the ball on the Denver 37 yard line, he let it rip for the en

Tito Paul, the Denver cornerback, had perfect position on Amani Toomer, the Giants' receiver, for an intercept

of the end zone. Two officials converged on the spot, looked at each other and signaled a touchdown, hoping they were right.

both feet were in bounds. Touchdowii. Giants, leaving 48 seconds for the Brancos to reply.

a timeout. They advanced to the Giaffic? 41 before Elway was sacked for a nineyard loss, and eventually were allowed one Hail Mary pass. But their prayer went unanswered.

ball the last couple of weeks, and it finally caught up with us," said Pat Bowlen, the Broncos' owner.

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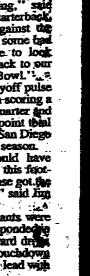
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Television replays, showed that yes,

'We haven't played our kind of foot-

After the kickoff, the Broncos had the ball at their 42 with 41 seconds left and

But Toomer leaped over Paul, made

Mighty Ducks 3, Kings 0 Teemu Selanne broke open a scoreless game with a pair of second-period goals and Paul Kariya ended a seven-game scoring drought as the Mighty Ducks beat the visiting Kings.

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SPORTS

Chile, Bolivia and Mexico **Erown Their Champions**

RIO DE JANEIRO - Three Latin American championships were decided at the weekend Colo Colo won the title in Chile, Necessa in Mexico and Blooming in Bolivia.

CHALL Colo Colo of Santiago won the league for the third year running when Fran-

WORLD SOCCER

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to last match to give it a 2-1 victory over

Depostes Iquique:

Cido Colo needed to win after Universidad dis Chile beat Andex Itliano, 3-2, in its last stane Sefarday.

Guadalajara to claim the Mexican Invierno Uniter) championship. Guadalajara, which fields only Mexican

players, needed only to draw the second leg of the final but conceded second half goals to Salvador Califera and the Uruguayan Sergio Vazquez that gave Necaxa a 2-0 victory and the third title this decade.

Tames Blooming, from the eastern city of Santa Core, won the championship, beating

after a 3-0 home victory last week. BRAZE Commitmens fought back from two goals down to draw, 2-2, away to Cruzeiro in the first leg of the Brazilian championship

Corinthians will play the remaining two matches of the three-leg final at home and only need to draw both games to win the championship, as they have the better firststage record in the competition.

Muller and Valdo gave Cruzeiro a twogoal lead in Belo Horizonte. Dinei, a replacement, and Marcelinho, a temperamental striker who has only just been brought back into the team after a row with the coach, Vanderley Luxemburgo, forced a draw for Connthians with two goals in six minutes.

PUREL Alianza and Sporting Cristal both won to finish level on points and goal difference at the top in the Clausura, the second

stage of the championship. They will meet in a playoff on Wednesday. Alianza beat Aurich, 2-1, and Cristal beat Municipal, 7-2. Sport Boys, who began the day as leader, drew, 0-0, at Cienciano and finished third on goal difference.



Turkmenistan's Konstantin Sosenko hitting Li Jinyu.

Budding Bribery Scandal Tests Olympic Committee

By Christopher Clarey International Herald Tribune

LAUSANNE, Switzerland - It required something remarkable to reduce doping to a minor topic at an International Olympic Committee meeting. It required evidence of

bribery within the IOC. There have long been allegations, suggestions and assumptions of corruption

among the membership. The IOC, after all, is one of the world's most exclusive and visible clubs, and exclusive clubs have a habit of fostering envy.

VANTAGE POINT

even animosity among non members. All the more reason for the fortunate few to be above

"We ask athletes to compete with integrity, and we ask members of the IOC to act the same way," said Anita DeFrantz, an American who is an IOC vice-president.

Not all athletes have answered the call, and neither have all the members, which is no surprise in light of human nature but certainly no excuse. The difference this time is that there appears to be proof in the form of a scholarship and training assistance fund created by the bid committee from Salt Lake City that benefited at least six relatives of IOC

Personally, and I expect I speak for a huge majority of IOC members, I don't like this to be out there but I'm glad it is," said Dick Pound, an IOC vice president. "Because it gives us an opportunity to look into it and hopefully that opportunity will put a chapter that appears to be somewhat disagreeable behind us.'

Pound, a potential candidate for the IOC presidency if Juan Antonio Samaranch ever vacates the post, has a role to play in the weeks ahead as head of the commission appointed to investigate the scholarship fund and, more importantly, its beneficiaries.

While it is somewhat reassuring that the IOC has rapidly appointed a commission brimming with able lawyers, it would be much more reassuring if the IOC had uncovered the fund's existence on its own, in-

stead of relying on the work of a Salt Lake City television station.

That the IOC had found nothing rotten with the state of Olympic bidding means that it could not have been searching terribly hard. Yes, the IOC has changed its system, removing some of the dining and wining and waste by having an evaluation commission pare down the lists of candidates and by strictly defining gift limits. Yes, the IOC has de-briefed bidding teams after votes in an

attempt to monitor the process.

The problem is that information is limited," said Marc Hodler, the Swiss IOC member who has alleged that corruption in bidding is hardly confined to Salt Lake City. "The winner never says anything because they have a bad conscience. The losers only give information if

they have decided never to run again. This, Pound insists, is the first time the IOC has a paper trail. It must take full advantage, or risk doing further damage to its credibility. It will pick another Olympic city next June in Seoul when it votes for the 2006 Winter Games host. Any reform in the electoral pro-

cess will come too late for that vote. The front-runner is Sion, Switzerland - a bid that Hodler supports but did not necessarily help with some of his allegations. It would have been better if he alleged less and proved more. The mystery is that he waited until after his 80th birthday to speak openly about his belief that corruption exists in the IOC. He was president of the International Ski Federation for 47 years without ever

being quite as provocative. Hodler, who is president of the IOC coordination committee for the 2002 Games, said Monday that he spoke out because of a recent conversation with a friend and because he did not want Salt Lake City to take all the blame when it was hardly alone and had been

so quick to cooperate. Where that cooperation leads will be fascinating. Pound said Monday that his committee hoped to complete its work by the end of January, just before the executive board meets on the eve of the world conference on doping in Lausanne. Pound's timetable is a good one. It would be best to address one major problem with the Olympic movement before moving on to the biggest.

After Slow Start, Japan's Ito Wins 100 Meters

*BANGKOK - Koji Ito of Japan recovered from a slow start Monday to win the men's 100 meters at the

/Snsantika Jayasinghe of Sri Lanka Supred in the women's 100, didn't and women's 400 meters. Damay-saft at all. After pulling a hamstring anthi Darsha won the women's race in Sunday's semifinals she missed the final Monday. But other runners gave Sti Lanka its first two Asian Games golds in 24 years — within

less than an hour. In the men's 100 meters, Ito was the slowest out of the blocks but recovered to win in 10.05 seconds. Secharwong Reanchai of Thailand eaged Japan's Yasukatsu Otsuki for atne held off Ibrahim Faraj of Qatar to the silver medal in a photo finish. win the men's 400 meters in 44.99. the silver medal in a photo finish.

- In the women's 100, Li Xueroei, the Asian record holder from China, won in a wind-aided 11.05 seconds, ahead of teammate Li Yali.

Sri Lankans won both the men's anthi Darsha won the women's race

ASIAN GAMES

in 51.57 seconds, comfortably ahead of Chen Yuxiang of China. P. T. Usha of India finished sixth in 54.37 in a return to the track. Usha had retired

eight years ago. In the next race, Sugath Tilleker-

golds of the games, in the women's and men's 1,500-meter races.

In the women's race, Jyotirmoy Sikdhar outsprinted Wang Qingfen of China Mohammed Taib of Qatar won the men's 1,500 for the third successive games.

In soccer, Thailand, playing with nine men, upset South Korea in the quarterfinals Monday, 2-1, on Thatwachai Dannong-Ongtrakul's 40meter goal six minutes into extra time. Wirawoot Srimaka, a Thai striker, was sent off in the 54th minute, provoking an outbreak of plastic bottle throwing by home fans. After the Thais took the lead, Surachi Jaturapattarapong was sent off in the

India and Quazr won their first 86th minute and South Korea leveled with a free kick.

Iran joined the Thais in the semifinals with a 4-0 victory over Uzbekistan. Ali Daei, who plays for Bayern Munich, scored three goals within seven minutes in the second half. China beat Turkmenistan, 3-0, and Kuwait beat Qatar in a penalty shootout, 3-1, after 150 minutes of

scoreless play. China, which won three other trackand-field golds and the mixed-doubles table tennis, boosted its total for the games to 84 gold medals. But, for the second consecutive day, South Korea was the biggest winner, adding seven golds, including three in Greco-Roman wrestling, to lift its total to 43.

ASIAN GAMES Gold — Chop Migo-Ro, Tokkan, def. Ho Yen-igh: Singapore, 322-336. Biologo — Hanna Onland-wat. Tokkan

SYNCHRONIZED SHIMARDIS

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Prisod, India, 2-1, 42

MEN'S MECED DOUBLES

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Gold — China (Wang Light and Weng Han)

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Single India, 18,20 meles; 2. Shoks:

Single India, 18,21 - 3, Seepel Rubbine, Koming 12,9

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Glandad) and N. Karan (Can Song-Int) and

Like Ton-Hyun, S. Koran (AT/Sidox 2.1907) 37, 420; 3. Hossein Rasso

ICEHOCKEY HHL Standings tyl. Moderno) (pp). Overfiere: is on post: D-7-15-10-0-32. C-15-

FOOTBALL NFL STANDINGS EAST W. I. T. Pcl. PF PA 10 4 0 .714 368 246 9 5 0 .643 345 263 9 5 0 .643 345 263 9 5 0 .643 274 206 8 6 0 .571 303 277 3 17 8 .214 268 390 17 3 3 37 68 37

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U.S. COLLEGE SCORES

SUNDAY RESULTS MEN TOP 25 No. 14. Michigan St. (6-3) dei. M. -Chicago 77-33.

Top 25
No. 1 Connecticat (8-0) def. St. Johns 91-51.
No. 5 Georgia (8-0) def. Oldonomo 88-79.
No. 7 N. Caroliau (11-1) def. Tems. 51. 95-63.
No. 10 Old Dorntnion (6-2) lost to No. 29 Pezza

CRICKET

AUSTRALIA VS. EMGLAND THERD ASMES TEST, FOURTH DAY MONDAY IN ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA No. 201 and 278 for five declared England: 227 and 122 for four

PARISTAN VS. ZIMBATWI FIREL DAY, SECOND TEST
MONDAY, IN LAHORE, PAISSTAN
Combobwe 183 of 48-0.

Test abandoned as drow due to fu
ababwe lead 3-match series 1-0.

WILLINGTON YS. SUDI FOLER-DAY MATCH, THERD DAY MOREDAY IN WELLINGTON, N. ZEALAND Wellington: 317 and 124 Indic: 268 and 30-1

GOLF

END OF YEAR WORLD RANKINGS Tiper Woods U.S., 12,30 points overage April O'Megro U.S., 10.43 3. David Duval U.S., 9.67 4. Davis Lave 3d U.S., 9.43 5. Emie Els. South Africa, 9.18 6. Nick Price, Zimbabwe, 8,98 7. Calin Manigomeric, Britain, 8,91 8. Lee Westwood, Britain, 8,45

9. Vijoy Singh, Fiji. 8.51 10. Phil Mickelson U.S., 7.76 12. Jim Furyk U.S., 7.23

17. Darren Clarke, Brilain, 5.72

No. 25 U.C.S. Barbara (5-2) del. Vanderbil 84-81. 20. Scott Hoch U.S., 5-22

SOCCER

GERMAN EXPEDITION

Boyern Munich 2 Boyer Leverhusen 0

STANDBREAS: Boyern Munich 38 points:
Boyer Leverhusen 35: Koiserslouten 35: 1860

Munich 31: Wolfsburg 27: Borussla

Dorfmund 26: Hertha Berlin 26: Stuftgart 21:
Freiburg 27: Hamburg 21: Bremen 20:
Schalke 04: 8 Bochum 18: Einfracht Frontsfurt 16: Rostock 15: Nuremberg 15: Duisburg
15: Bor. Moenchengladbach 10.

Fraisant spect augusteen

ITALIAN FIRST DIVISION orentino 1 Juventus 0 paleonius: Florentino 28 points: Milan Roma 23: Perma 23: Inter Milan 21: Luzio STANDONNOS: Florentina 25 points, Music 24 Roma 23; Perma 25; Inter Allian 21; Lucin 26: Bologna 18; Barl 18; Juvernus 18; Perugia 18; Udinese 16; Cogliani 14; Pracenza 13; Sampdoria 13; Empoli 12; Salernitona 12; Vi-cenza 11; Venezia 10.

nce 15: Espi effe 12: Aleves 12: Extra

MEXICAN DIVINDRO CLAMPI Guadolojara (), Necaxa 2 Necaxa win 2-0 on aggregate, Invierno is first of two champions the Mendcan season, which has no

FELAL, FIRST LEG telro 2, Corintidans draw 2

TRANSITIONS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
TORONTO—Acquired RHP Joey Hamilton
from Son Diego for RHP Woody Williams
RHP Carlos Almanzar and OP Peter Tucci. MATIONAL LEAGUE K.Y. METS—Agreed to terms with QF Rickey

MATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
MHL—Suspended N.Y. Rangers RW Todd
Harvey for I game and fined him \$1,000 for
roughing incident vs. Bufforto on Dec. 11.
PHILADELPHIA—Acquired RW Mikael
Renberg and C Daymond Langkow from
Tampa Bay for C Chris Grafton and C Mika
Sillinger.





durables: PERCET GROUP VESION DARKING
Anneas: How the broken has the controls:
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PEANUTS



BEETLE BAILEY

"WHISKEY

HAS BEEN

THE 16th

CENTURY.

A TRADITION

HERE SINCE

BLONDIE

THE COOK WANTS YOUR OPINION OF HIS NEW SALCE ATEN

GARFIELD I SAW A REAL CUTE GIRL AT THE MALL STANDING UNDER MISTLETDE, SO I KISSED HER BUT IT WAS A MANNEQUIN

THE WATER FROM

THE SPRING BHAILLE

MHARSHAID IS THE

SECRET OF THE

LIGHTNESS.

WHISKEYS UNIQUE



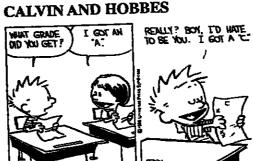


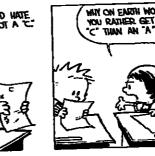


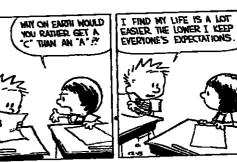


















NON SEQUITUR

I'M TELLIN' YA, ARNIE,

SOMETIMES IT SEEMS

TOO EASY ...





DOONESBURY



LAST FALL I

PROMISED THE VOTERS IT BRING IN AN A-TEAM OF PO-

DOIN' IT:

NEW YORK — It has just A maker of chocolate been announced that the truffles for candy boxes ad-Christmas season will merge ded: "The merger doesn't with Valentine's Day in one make sense. Christmas apof the greatest financial deals peals to greed — Valentine's of all time. Originally, Christ- Day to affection and tendermas tried to merge with Hanukkah, but the Grand Rabbi All Christmas thinks about is of the North Pole turned it the bottom line." There is some question as

So Santa Claus, the CEO of Christmas Inc., looked for anlikely other

prospect and found one in Valentine's. 'It's a perfect fit," Santa said. "We both deal in love. They are big in

greeting cards, Buchwald strong in Barbie dolls." The price was \$40 billion. North Pole Christmas exec- could start marking up all the utives said there would be a big cost savings when they laid off those who worked at Christmas and Valentine's Day factories. "We don't need the number of reindeer that we have used in the one of several executive vice presidents said. "We also intend to buy our mistletoe from China and

The people at Valentine's Day are not as happy. A Cupid doily maker told me, Everyone knows that Christmas gobbles up everything. Valentine's Day will lose its meaning when the Christmas makers start cutting back on expenses.

and our profits are expected to

Lovers are very sensitive people, and you can't treat them as you would the customers at Toys R Us."

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ness. We're heart specialists.

to whether the Justice Department will permit the two holidays to merge. An antitrust attorney said, "I don't know if we are talking about restraint of trade or not. The Christmas people would like to have Americans spend all their savings in December. The Valentine holiday people have only one big moment in February, and that is when everyone goes to Hallmark. The concern is that if Christmas owns Valentine's, they greeting cards, and with a monopoly on love it would no longer be dog eat dog."

Santa angrily denied the contentions that the merger would destroy competition.

"We're not trying to monopolize the holidays," he furned. "Our only intention is load our sleds with more eau to cut down on our labor de cologne from Taiwan. costs. We can save billions of Christmas will be a slimmer dollars if we dump enough but more successful holiday, people at Christmas.

We also can be more efficient. We'll offer two bouquets of roses — to be sent at Christmas and Valentine's Day — for the same price.
"We have to accomplish

this merger so we can compete with the Chinese New We asked Santa what hol-

iday Christmas would merge with in case the Justice Department would not allow him to buy Valentine's Day. We'd join up with Halloween. It's become a real

IMPORTED - The actress Nicole Kidman and her husband, the actor

Tom Cruise, at a party to celebrate the opening in New York of David

Hare's "The Blue Room," an adaptation of Schnitzler's "La Ronde."

Shakespeare's Lost Years, à la Tom Stoppard

By Sarah Lyali New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Many things about William Shakespeare's life and work are shrouded in mystery, but the mystery of what scholars call his lost years is one of the most intriguing of all. What did Shakespeare do from 1585, when he is known to have left his home in Stratford-on-Avon, and 1592, when he re-emerged in London, described as an 'upstart crow' in the account of a rival

And how did he make the enormous artistic leap between his early plays, flawed works like the bloody "Titus Andronicus," and his romantic masterpiece, "Romeo and Juliet," first performed in 1594?

No one knows for sure, and "Shakespeare in Love" provides a fanciful explanation by imagining the young Shakespeare (Joseph Fiennes) as a nearly unknown actor and playwright who finds his poetic voice through a passionate love affair with one Viola de Lesseps, a woman as clever as she is beautiful. That Viola never actually existed, and that she is played by the certifiably American Gwyneth Paltrow (albeit with a plausible English accent), didn't matter to the filmmakers.

The movie is meant to be a high-entertainment mix of fact and fiction, combining a modern sensibility with Shakespearean language and period flourishes, full of the double meanings and sly jokes that characterize the

work of Tom Stoppard, its co-writer. 'What's glorious is that so little is known about this period that you're not trapped by any kind of historical circumstance," said John Madden, the director, who is accustomed to reading between the lines of English history, his most recent film having been "Mrs. Brown," which explored the relationship between Queen Victoria and one of her equerries.

"At this point, Shakespeare was seen as some sort of hack; his genius was just being recognized," Madden said. "One of the great things is to catch him at this moment, when he wasn't "the Bard," when he was just a jobbing actor trying to make his way while suffering from the kind of pressures that we all suffer from. At the same time, he has this genius that he could just turn on like a tap."

The formidable cast also includes Geoffrey Rush as Philip Henslowe, the theatrical producer, Rupert Everett as the playwright Christopher Marlowe, Shakespeare's archrival, and



Judi Dench is Queen Elizabeth I in John Madden's "Shakespeare in Love."

a roll-call of British character actors: Imelda Staunton as Viola's nurse and confidente: the hunky Colin Firth as Viola's unpleasant fiancé, the Earl of Wessex, and Judi Dench as a

haughty but feminist Queen Elizabeth L The film opens to a theatrical crisis. The wolves are at the door. Henslowe, who runs the Rose Theater, is trying to beat back competition from its rival, the Curtain, but he heavily in debt and desperately in need of a hit. He hopes that Shakespeare, his current playwright-for-hire, will come through with a play that gives the public what it seems to want a romance, a shipwreck and some

slapstick humor involving an unruly dog. But Shakespeare's play, tentatively titled "Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter," not being written. Bereft of inspiration, Shakespeare is suffering from writer's block, sitting in his garret in London, throwing page after page of his work into the garbage.

It is not until he meets Viola and falls instantly, heavily in love that he finds the muse he has longed for. As the two enter into a steamy, illicit affair --- she is rich and has a

— he finds that words of love and longing and poetry are flowing, as if by magic, from his quill. And the play he ends up writing, "Romeo and Juliet," is different from any-

thing he, or anyone else, has ever produced. "Shakespeare was doing something radical for his time," said Marc Norman, the Hollywood screenwriter who conceived the plot some years ago (one of his sons gave him the idea), wrote the initial script and is credited as co-writer with Stoppard. "Playwrights writing in that period all adhered to the notion that comedies were comedies and tragedies were tragedies, that a comedy is a story about love that ends in marriage, and that a tragedy ends in death. But in 'Romeo and Juliet,' Shakespeare was starting with a comedy and ending with a tragedy, and nobody had ever done that before.

To Norman, the most interesting question surrounding the play was how Shakespeare was able to leave his more immature work behind and create a piece of such grace and power. "I started to wonder what caused him to do that, what caused him to make that fiancé; he is poor and has a wife back home choice," Norman said. "I thought, What if he

acting because he finds it "very bad for

one's mental health," the weekly News

of the World reported Sunday. The

Welsh film star, 60, said that after 35

years in the business he finds it "tire-

some, disturbing and deeply distasteful." He added: "My joke has always been, 'It

had a love affair with a woman who inspired 1990s, Stoppard was brought in for rewriter (the project then languished in Hollywoods limbo for some years, moving from Tiest

versal to Miramax). The resulting film is unmistakably Stoppardian, existing on several levels at once, made for a 20th-century andience but full of

Elizabethan in-jokes and alinsions to Shake speare's and others! works.

At times, Stoppard has Shakespeare speaking lines from his own plays as dialogue in his drill. logue in his daily life, and at times he interjects very modern witticisms about the plight of writers (Shakespeare is forever being mistaken for the far more famous and successful Marlowe) and the absurd vanishthat pervades the that pervades the theater.

But Madden, the director, is at pains to make it clear that knowing about Shakespeare and his time are not necessary to enjoying the film. "The screenplay has been carefully crafted so that everyone can catch up and understand it and follow it," has said. "For anyone who wants to spot the references, they're all there, but that absolutely must not be a requirement for seeing. the film. They're a bonus."

one suspects that the need to tone downs the erudition to widen the film's appeal might have sat heavily with the clever Stoppard. But he knew what he was getting into when he signed up, he said. "Broadly speaking, in theater the director is there to do his best to serve the writer, and in movies the writer is there to serve the director," he said. "I wear a very different writing hat in movies."

At the same time, he enjoyed not having to worry about historical accuracy. Among other things, he was free to make up characters that didn't exist, invent scenes that never happened (between Marlowe and Shakespeare, for instance), and play around with the essence of his real-life characters in his own imagination, something he has done in many of his plays (he has also fooled around with Shakespeare before, in "Ross encranz And Guildenstern Are Dead").

"I have a special take on historical ac-curacy, which is that all supposed historical truths are temporary, meaning they're al-ways there to be modified in the light of subsequent discoveries, Stoppard said. But this film is entertainment, which doesn't require it to be justified in the light of historical theory."

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AGENDA L. Forces in Gulf Aton High Alert

PEOPLE

THE tenor Luciano Pavarotti has ■ canceled three concerts in Berlin because of problems with a German tax case, the Berlin Philharmonic says. Pavarotti, 63, canceled his Dec. 30 and New Year's eve concerts with the Philharmonic and a Jan. 25 concert at the Deutsche Oper in Berlin. The Deutsche Oper said Pavarotti had told them there was "an unclarified situation with the German tax authorities." A Philhar-monic spokesman said Pavarotti had canceled on advice from his lawyer in New York. A prosecutor in Mannheim is investigating Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras and Mont-serrat Caballe for "fiscal fraud."

Major Ronald Ferguson, the father of Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York, says he has been battling prostate cancer for two years. The disclosure came two months after the death of the duchess's mother, Susan Barrantes, in

a car crash in Argentina. Ferguson, 67,

said on Independent Television News

that he wanted to spread awareness of

the most common form of cancer among men. He said he was diagnosed with the disease, which is now in remission, two years ago after a routine medical checkup, but had kept it secret from his family until treatment was under way.

Anthony Hopkins says he will quit sure beats working for a living.' But the joke has caught up with me now."

'Private Ryan' Hailed by L.A. Film Critics

L OS ANGELES — It's Oscar time in Hollywood. In a vote that could foreshadow next year's Academy Awards, the Los Angeles Film Critics

Association has named "Saving Private Ryan" best picture of the year and The best actress award was a tie: Fernanda Montenegro, for her part in the drama "Central do Brasil" (Central Station), and Ally Sheedy, who played a once-famous photographer living as a recluse in "High Art." Named best

director James Whale in the independent film "Gods and Monsters." The association gave the best screenplay award to Warren Beatty and Jeremy Pikser for the political satire "Bulworth," in which Beatty starred and directed. The best foreign film prize went to the Danish drama "The Celebration." The Oscar nominations are to be announced on Feb. 9.

actor by the 49-member group was Ian McKellen for his role as the "Franken-

"Titanic" and Michael Keaton's Batman suit fetched thousands of dollars at a memorabilia auction in Hollywood, but neither came close to the Cowardly Lion costume worn by Bert Lahr in "The Wizard of Oz," which sold for \$250,000. The DiCaprio shirt brought \$10,000 at Man in the caprio the auction Saturday. The Baiman suit advantage went for \$60,000. The Cowardly Life management included the original body of lion pelts, with a re-made headpiece.

A shirt worn by Leonardo DiCaprio

□ : A teenage boy who won a nationwide contest to interview a rap group on MTV says the cable channel ended up showtune. The music network has apologized to Bradley Jenkins, and agreed to redo a segment that the family said portrayed them as destitute and unhappy. "When-you look at the tape, it looks like my life." is really bad and my family is really broken." Jenkins told The Times of Trenton. "It was supposed to be a really positive experience for me and it turned

out to be really horrible."



out of the blue

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